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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—There is no foundation for the report that Mgr. Fava is to be prosecuted for his pastoral stigmatising the disgraceful treatment of a school crucifix. M. Paul Bert will, however, submit to the Chamber next week a Bill regulating the relations of the clergy and the Government, and establishing penalties for infringement of the Concordat. At present a Bishop's pastoral may be condemned and seized, but there is no actual punishment. M. Bert probably intends to propose a fine or stoppage of pay in such cases.

The Chapter of Notre Dame having paid a New Year's greeting to the Nuncio, Monsignor Czacki, he expressed his appreciation of the homage offered by the French clergy to the Holy Father and his representative. He enjoined on them prayer, which no one could snatch from their hearts, and which was the only resource pending the brighter future to be expected from Divine mercy.

The Bishop of Grenoble has written a letter to the Roman Catholic papers in reply to the Republican criticism on a recent pastoral recommending Roman Catholic schools. He states that the Mayor of Gières, a neighbouring village, issuing one Sunday with some friends from a wineshop, went to the schoolroom, took down a crucifix from the wall, and threw it into a cesspool, where it still remains, a lady vainly entreating permission to have the cesspool emptied at her own expense and the crucifix recovered. The Mayor was afterwards suspended for two months by the Prefect. The Bishop vindicates his severe animadversions on this disgraceful act, and in particular his remark :—

We feel that such an outrage demands more than tears; it demands blood; that blood God demands and will have. May it be rather ours, dear brethren, than yours and your children's; but the crimes of treason against God create for the nation committing them a debt payable only with blood. Without shedding of blood there is no remission.

The Bishop complains that the Republican papers have denounced this passage, while studiously suppressing the crucifix outrage which called it forth, and he insists that he did not thereby invoke an invasion, but simply recalled the expiation of Jerusalem for its profanation of the Cross, and the fact that wherever altars are overthrown and crucifixes profaned, the blood of Christ soon ceases to flow and the blood of man is shed. He does not invoke war, but, as a man who has more than once jeopardised his life for France, he dreads it; yet his ardent desire is to see France happy and in possession of her old traditional glory. While the Bishop of Grenoble has thus exercised a manifest right of stigmatising an unpardonable outrage, Mongr. Freppel, Bishop of Angers, has again taken the offensive. In acknowledging the New Year's greetings of his clergy he deals some heavy blows at the Ministerialists. He ridicules the attempt of the Freemasons and Atheists to excite the priests to mutiny against the so-called yoke of the Bishops—a snare too clumsy to seduce priests, whose alleged insecurity of tenure is commiserated by the very party who think lightly of it. The Bishop sarcastically remarks that on reading of the constant movement of functionaries shifted about from the Channel to the Pyrenees, he asks himself whether France has sufficient removal vans to carry the officials thus tossed about. He asks what department of the State can boast, like himself, of not having in twelve years shifted a single priest against his will. He scouts the notion of coercing the clergy by a stoppage of pay, and denies that he has ever attacked the real rights of the State, his line of conduct being marked out by the magnificent words lately uttered by the noble head of the House of France, the Comte de Chambord, as to the true relation of the ecclesiastical with the civil power—a programme of peace, liberty, respect, and devotion. Providence, as remarked by Jean de Balzac in the seventeenth century, has always worked for France as many miracles as Frenchmen have committed blunders. "Let us commit no blunders," concludes Monseigneur Freppel, "and leave Providence to conduct our affairs in 1882 in the direction of right and national honour, justice, and truth."

Cardinal de Bonnechose, Archbishop of Rouen, who, originally a Protestant, was thirty years of age when he relinquished the law for the priesthood, has issued on his return from Rome a pastoral which might have raised a storm but for his prudent discretion that, though addressed to laity as well as clergy, it is not to be read in churches. After some eloquent remarks on ancient Rome, he says :—

"We see the Supreme Pontiff despoiled of his temporal power, confined within the walls of the Vatican, and consequently a captive. Alive, he cannot issue from his Palace to preside over the august ceremonies of religion, or to visit his churches and people, without exposing himself to the insult of the sectaries who have mingled with the Roman population. Dead, his ashes are insulted and threatened with being thrown into the Tiber. The outrage of July 15, which made the civilised world shudder, is the most significant and sinister of lessons. No security for the Pope outside the bounds in which he keeps himself. As supreme pastor of Jesus Christ's Church, we see him deprived of the means of freely exerting his influence on the world. Erected under his eyes we see temples and schools, in which error and falsehood are taught. In the streets and squares are exhibited drawings and pictures, in which the dogmas and practices of Catholic worship are turned to derision and the ministers of religion depicted in shameful caricatures before the eyes of the public and of childhood. A hostile Press daily pours insults on the Church, and even on its venerated head. Lastly, there is being formed in this infected atmosphere a rising generation, which, a stranger to faith, will probably be so to morality, and threatens the future of Rome with deplorable social degradation. How can this sad picture be considered without anguish of heart? And if the Bishops recently assembled at Rome could have spoken out freely, if prudence in the very interest of the Holy See had not imposed on them a painful reserve, their utterance would have been one long cry of pain. . . . There can be no other king in Rome than the Pope. This was understood by the nations when, by common consent, they reserved a territory known as the States of the Church, in which the Pontiff alone reigned, governing both spiritual and temporal society. . . . How would the re-establishment of this institution, which is of the essence of the constitution of the Church, be inconsistent with the greatness of Italy? Would not the retrenchment of this small part of her territory be more than compensated by peace of conscience and reconciliation with the Catholics of Italy and the whole world? . . . It is evident to all that the head of Christendom cannot remain as at present situated. What would you gain, we ask the Italians, by the Supreme Pontiff being reduced to leave Rome? Would the Christian Powers long tolerate such a spectacle? And do you think 200,000,000 Catholics would remain apathetic witnesses? Why not yourselves make with generosity and dignity the sacrifice asked of you in the very name of your beautiful country's honour and internal peace? . . . Yield like the Great Constantine to God's providential orders—leave Rome to the Pontiff, Christ's representative, and remove elsewhere the capital of the new Empire. All Europe will applaud you, and, so far from thinking it an act of weakness, will admire your strength and wisdom."

On Tuesday the Archbishop of Paris received his clergy, whose spokesman urged that, in devoting themselves to the poor and the sick and in teaching children the fear of God and the fulfilment of every duty, they were serving the State and proving that patriotism which they signally displayed in 1870. Cardinal Guibert, in reply, exhorted them to persevere in these sentiments and to continue to devote themselves to the poor and distressed, without mixing in the conflicts and passions of the day.

The Archbishop of Lyons, in a pastoral on education, directs the clergy, wherever both a communal and a Catholic school exist, to teach the catechism in the church or some neutral building, this being the only way of avoiding complaints and difficulties which the commonest prudence bids them prevent. As, moreover, the law requires the wish of the parents as to their children receiving religious instruction to be distinctly expressed, parents should be exhorted expressly to state their desire for such instruction; but the priests, whether addressing them privately or from the pulpit, are to be extremely reserved and prudent in their language, so that nothing evil can be said of them *ex adverso*. The parents' consent obtained, the catechism should be made as attractive as possible to the children by careful preparation of the lessons by encouraging their efforts, and by praising and seasonably rewarding their successes.

The *Revue de la Finance et de l'Industrie*, a weekly financial paper, estimates the total capital of companies with a capital of upwards of 106,000f., created during the past year, at 2,340,197,000f., or in English money £93,608,000, which exceeds by £2,000,000 the total capital of companies started in England during the same period. Of this sum 1,207,189,000f. was the capital of companies started during the first six months, and 1,135,008,000f. that of the second half of the year. An analysis of the items comprising the vast sum of money thus invested gives the following results :—Banks, 415,400,000f. (£16,717,000); insurance companies, 28,600,000f.; metallurgical companies, 82,725,939f.; railway and other carrying companies, 98,928,000f.; mining and quarrying companies, 44,500,000f.; lighting and water companies, 19,400,000f.; newspapers 33,200,000f.; land and house property companies (*sociétés immobilières*), 173,427,000f.; miscellaneous, 238,817,500f.

The Correctional Tribunal of the Seine on Thursday passed a judgment on a group of financiers which will serve as a warning to many directors of companies who are about to be confronted with the problem of evolving a dividend. The story was this:—A person named M. Jean Laurent Brugerolles, a financier who had been very unsuccessful, and was apparently at his wit's end to make a living, started in 1876 a "Company of Departmental Banks," the objects of which are not clear. The first board of directors was composed of a certain M. de Morry, a Baron Tharreau, who had been a prefect under the Empire, and a Comte de la Bassetière. One of these gentlemen was succeeded by a Baron Kerveguen, and M. de Morty, owing to a criminal prosecution for outraging public decency, resigned. Now, all these gentlemen seem to have been unaware of a certain article of the Companies Act of 1867, providing very stringent punishment for those who make false statements as to the subscriptions with a view to attract the capital of the public. The fourth part of the capital, which is statutorily requisite before a company can begin operations, was not really subscribed. This was the first fraud. To pay the shareholders a new concern had to be created. It was a financial paper for pushing the shares of the Banques Départementales, whose shareholders were paid in shares of the new paper. This was followed by a corn-grinding company, the Société Générale des Françaises Minoteries, created for the same purpose, capital 5,000,000f. M. Brugerolles bought a mill, in return for which and his high financial position he claimed 6,000 shares of 500f. each, half paid. This company paid a high dividend, owing to a false inventory, another offence punishable very severely. The result was a great rise in the price of its shares on the market. This encouraged Brugerolles to start another company for the making of *pâtés alimentaires*. He again obtained in reward a handsome portion of the shares. Some shareholders at length, finding no profit accruing from their securities, put themselves in communication with the judicial authorities, and Brugerolles decamped, and has not been discovered. The sentences passed on Thursday were five years' imprisonment, 3,000f. fine, and ten years' deprivation of civic rights on Brugerolles, being the maximum penalty; six months' imprisonment and 500f. fine on M. Tharreau, the ex-Prefect; 500f. on Baron de Kerveguen; and M. Boyer, another Director, 1,000f. fine.

M. Hérold was buried on Wednesday, according to his special directions, without religious rites of any description. His funeral was attended by a large number of persons officially and otherwise identified with the Republic.

The Dominicans have just sold their monastery in the Rue Jean de Beauvais, one of the establishments closed last winter.

ITALY.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* gives in a telegram some remarks made to him by Monsignore Vanutelli, the Papal Nuncio in Austria. M. Vanutelli expressed his belief that there was no substantial basis for the rumours that negotiations were going on concerning the position of the Pope. "I believe," said the Monsignore, "that nobody here knows more about the matter than myself. The question is, no doubt, a natural one, but up to the present, though perhaps ideas and intentions exist in regard to it, these have not yet been translated into action. I have heard, however," continued the Monsignore, "from friends in Rome—and I repeat what they said quite unofficially—that plans have been broached for dealing with the difficulty in which since 1870 both Italy and the Pope have been placed." Speaking informally, the Nuncio said that the idea had been broached that a settlement of the difficulty might be arrived at by conceding to the Pope the city of Rome, with a strip of territory as far as Civita Vecchia; the city and the territory, however, still to remain under the administration of the Italian Government.

The Rome correspondent of the *Daily News*, telegraphed on Tuesday :—

The King of Italy's reception on Tuesday of the deputation that waited on him to present the New Year's greetings of the Lower House was invested with more political importance than usually attaches to such formalities. Alluding to Prince Bismarck's reported designs of interference on behalf of the Vatican, King Humbert said he took that opportunity of letting them know that Italy was decided to respect all, but on condition of being respected in turn. His Government had no reason to believe that any one had been wanting in respect to her, but to avoid misunderstandings it was well that it should be known that they were firmly decided not to admit of the slightest discussion on certain questions touching the internal order of Italy, which they alone could and would see to. The firmness and patriotism thus evinced by King Humbert on this the first occasion of his asserting himself in the affairs of his kingdom have produced an excellent impression among the public.

GERMANY.—The Frankfort correspondent of the *Standard*, telegraphing on Tuesday, says :—

The conflict of parties in the Imperial Parliament is so complete that legislation is practically impossible. Journals of all shades of opinion are asking, in reference to our internal politics, the question, "What next?" In this connection a rather obscure or enigmatical statement put forward by a semi-official correspondent in a Ministerial organ appearing in Vienna is just now attracting much attention. This writer is understood to express the ideas of Prince Bismarck, and what he intends to intimate is generally interpreted to be that the Chancellor is now contemplating nothing less than a fundamental change in the constitution of the Empire. He says, "We have to pass through a constitutional conflict. We appear to be fighting about fiscal and social reforms in the Empire. But it is a constitutional question which underlies the opposition to the Chancellor's plans—that and nothing less. According to the Liberals the revenues of the Empire ought to be dependent on the varying will or composition of the Imperial Parliament." The writer contends that this was not the intention of the Imperial Constitution, and that the German Empire cannot be governed under such a theory. The old Empire went to pieces, he says, because the Emperors were never able permanently to secure the ways and means for its Government, and if things are allowed to go on as they have commenced the same cause threatens to ruin the new Empire. The "conflict" mentioned by this semi-official writer has by many been supposed to mean no more than that the new Imperial Parliament would shortly be dissolved, and that the country would be plunged into the turmoil of another election. But the *Cologne Gazette* pertinently remarks :—"The fact is now recalled that in the immediate *entourage* of the Chancellor, the statement has repeatedly been heard that if the Imperial Parliament in its present form proves a hindrance to the development of the Empire, then some other institution must be thought of. The phrase at the time nowhere received 'serious attention,' but is now recalled as affording the most probable explanation of the project at present occupying the thoughts of the Chancellor."

PRUSSIA.—Cardinal Ledochowski has resigned all pretensions to the Archbishopric of Posen, with a view of facilitating the refilling of the vacancy.

RUSSIA.—The Czar has pardoned the Polish Bishops who were exiled to Siberia after the insurrection in Poland in 1864. It is rumoured that the Nihilists have ordered a large quantity of dynamite at Hamburg. The Czar has granted an audience to General Tchernayeff, who is proceeding to the frontiers of China in order to examine the financial and commercial condition of the Celestial Empire.

WARSAW.—The *Times* correspondent says :—

"I was an eye-witness of the disgraceful conduct displayed by the lower orders at Warsaw, and I must tell you beforehand that they were merely the instruments of wily persons who make the Jews the target for their practice shooting, and some of them think that they satisfy the Government, and others that they do a good work for the promotion of Nihilism. I was in the ancient church of the Holy Cross between the hours of 12 and 1 p.m., when Divine Service was being celebrated in the most solemn manner. Thousands of devout persons were assembled. In a spot where the danger of a fire is almost inconceivable, there suddenly burst forth a cry 'It burns.' This cry caused a great confusion at the doors. Within ten minutes there were 29 corpses, and 23 wounded persons. Physicians and surgeons, among the latter several Jews, rendered every possible assistance. Among them was especially prominent the Jewish surgeon, M. Reiswasser. At the same time there were seized several pickpockets within and outside the church, because they were suspected of having given the false alarm, there being not the remotest trace of a fire. It has since been proved and judicially decided that among those suspicious parties there was not a single Jew, nor a convert from Judaism. Yet in the first moment there ran forth before the church a voice from the assembled crowd, but which did not express itself in the way that a crowd is used to utter its opinions, 'Jews have in the church made our brothers and our sisters a sacrifice. Let our blood be revenged upon the Jews.' This voice decided upon what was to follow. The next Jews passing by, or being in the vicinity, were most dangerously beaten. In one instance the mob invaded the neighbouring streets, destroyed the business places of the Jews, and made havoc in private dwellings. The house of the Jewish surgeon who has just been named was among the first which were entirely demolished. From the neighbouring streets the furious mob rushed headlong through the entire city, with the exception of some thoroughfares, committing abominable attacks upon persons, and fierce destruction upon the property of the Jews. Passers-by on foot and in carriages were seized, flogged, dragged along, and cast aside, bathed in their own blood. All Jewish public-houses and inns, numerous watchmakers' shops, and other business places, not omitting harmless booksellers, were broken into, and the contents of the premises were scattered about in the mud. A great portion was also hidden away and stolen, and a rumour was spread that everything belonging to the Jews would be destroyed. These acts of outrage were principally committed by lads, ranging between the ages of from twelve to twenty, and could easily have been stopped if the local police, aided by a small posse of soldiers, had promptly put a stop to these disgraceful proceedings. But things were allowed to take a different turn. The party who should have taken action remained neutral. The calamity has fallen upon the poorest of the Jewish inhabitants, whose houses have been emptied, and deprived even of doors and windows. Their bedding and their garments have been torn to pieces and changed into artificial snowflakes. When all the ravages were over a constable or a soldier might be found stationed on the spot to guard their walls. It was generally understood that the rabble was commanded by 'intelligent' leaders, who stood by smoking their cigars, and giving carefully considered directions. Many of the citizens of Warsaw applied to policemen within their reach and to military men to take the rioters into custody, but the 'natural protectors' of the people did not generally acccept the appeal made to them. Also in these instances honourable exceptions must be noticed, and in consequence of this partial action numerous vagabonds were thrown into prison. Only towards midnight the city became calmed, but at five o'clock on the next day there recommenced a whistling and a noise of the bands of destroyers. At the intercession of the representatives of the Warsaw nobles there appeared now military detachments, which *ad libitum* captured or spared the open robbers. On the 29th of December there were 2,000 rioters under lock and key, most of whom must of course soon be set free. About 6,000 Jewish families have in consequence of this tumult been deprived of their shelter, their clothing, their food. Mechanics and labouring men formed the bulk of the injured persons. It is impossible for me to give even the faintest notion of the immense amount of misery which has been occasioned, and the mischief is the more deplorable since there would not have been the slightest difficulty in nipping it in the bud."

AMERICA.—The New Year brings America a sudden and unexpected season of cold weather, with snow and ice. The St. Lawrence, Upper Mississippi, and Missouri rivers are closed by the ice. Three hundred feet of the railway bridge at Sioux City, Iowa, have been destroyed by ice, generally interfering with the river navigation.

The President held his New Year reception at the White House, Washington, on Monday, from 11 till 2, receiving the Cabinet and the Diplomatic Corps, the Judges, Congressmen, army and navy officers, and veterans, all the Washington officials, and during the final hour the citizens of Washington.

At a crowded hall at Shaneville, near Cleveland, Ohio, during a festival on New Year's eve, the floor gave away, over 200 persons falling to the floor below. Two were killed, and ten were fatally and seventy seriously injured. The building caught fire, but was soon extinguished, though several were badly burnt.

The trial of Guiteau still drags on. On Tuesday the Court, after an argument, declined to admit Dr. Clerk Mills's testimony, or to re-open the insanity question, or to admit the testimony about the prisoner's cast. Guiteau said, "This head business is a rather dry subject. I have a letter from one of Garfield's Ohio friends. It is worth more than twenty heads to show the drift of public opinion." Mr. Davidge demanded that this interruption should be stopped. Judge Cox said imperatively to the prisoner: "Let us not hear any more of that now." Guiteau replied persistently: "The drift of public opinion is worth a bushel of heads." Judge Cox: "Keep quiet; public opinion has nothing to do with it." Guiteau: "This letter says that the harsh feeling is all towards the doctors now." The bailiff from the opposite side of the Court shouted, "Stop him." Guiteau :—"I've got through—(laughter)—what the jury want to know is public opinion." The bailiff, crossing to the dock, gave instructions to the officers. When the bailiff's back was turned, Guiteau said :—"I address 50,000,000 of people when I talk, not this little Court and jury. People are interested in this business." The defence offered John W. Guiteau to identify the letter the prisoner sent to Senator Cameron. The Government objected, saying they admitted the genuineness of the letter. The witness was then withdrawn. The Court afterwards adjourned. As the audience dispersed, Guiteau said he was willing to let the case go to a jury now. Mr. Scoville afterwards prepared an affidavit naming several witnesses on the list furnished to the defence who were not called, and who he believed had changed their minds about the case. The affidavit stated that the District Attorney had not called them because he knew their testimony would be in favour of the prisoner. The court was better heated. When Guiteau entered the dock he said, "This is a good time to make a speech, but I promised the Marshal to keep quiet to-day, so I will try to do so." Mr. Scoville submitted an affidavit asking leave to introduce new testimony for the defence. Mr. Reed argued in favour of the motion. Mr. Davidge opposed it. Mr. Scoville replied, and Mr. Corkhill opposed the motion, concluding by saying there had never been a trial in Washington where so much liberality had been shown by the Government. Guiteau insisted on being heard. The bailiff tried to silence him, but Guiteau shouted angrily, "Let me alone, or I'll slap your mouth." Then he called out, "Your Honour, all I want is to show that I told these men on the way to gaol that it was the political situation and the pressure of inspiration that caused me to remove the President." Judge Cox, after describing the difficulties under which the defence laboured and the consequent latitude he had allowed them, decided that evidence of insanity could not be offered in surrebuttal, but testimony by which the defence expect to prove that the prisoner asserted upon the day of the assassination and the day afterwards his motive for the act

should be admitted. Guiteau said, notwithstanding efforts to quiet him, "That's a first-class decision, Judge; that's all I want; to get before the jury what I said then about the causes that impelled me upon the President. For the rest I don't care a snap. I wouldn't give 50c. a bushel for expert testimony. If I had money enough I could get fifty of the best experts in the country to swear I'm as crazy as a loon. That's what that kind of evidence is worth." Chief Brooks, of the Treasury Detective Service, testified that he visited the prisoner in gaol the night after the shooting. He detailed a conversation, wherein the prisoner said that he had been moved to do the act as a political necessity. It was for the good of the country. He had thought and prayed over the matter for six months, and the more he thought and the more he prayed the more he became convinced that the President must go, and that it was his duty to remove him. Guiteau throughout this testimony endeavoured to speak, but the bailiff kept him partially quiet. Their controversy was plainly audible. Mr. Scoville finally announced that the case for the defence was closed, the Judge's ruling preventing the introduction of testimony he had expected to present. The Court adjourned until Saturday. Before the adjournment the Government submitted its statement of law points on which it asked the Court to instruct the jury relative to insanity. The Court's adjournment till to-day (Saturday), was at Mr. Scoville's suggestion, to give the defence time to prepare a statement on the law points.

PORTUGAL.—The Portuguese Cortes were opened on Monday by the King. In the Speech from the Throne his Majesty stated that his relations with foreign Powers were good. The King next alluded to the sympathetic reception he had met with at Caceres from the Sovereign and citizens of the noble country of Spain—a reception the recollection of which he would always cherish in his memory. In a few days he hoped to have the satisfaction of seeing their Catholic Majesties the King and Queen of Spain in his capital. This interchange of visits would serve to knit ever closer and closer the good relations existing between two friendly, independent, and free countries. Public tranquillity, his Majesty continued, had been maintained. His enthusiastic reception by the people during his journey in the north with the Queen and the Royal Princes proved their profound attachment to the monarchy. After expressing a hope that the treaty of commerce concluded with France would meet the approbation of the Cortes, the King went on to announce that fresh measures for developing primary and secondary education, for improving the army and navy, and for constructing railways and roads were in contemplation. The Government would submit financial proposals, with the object of establishing a balance between the revenue and expenditure of the country, in such a manner as to cause the least possible sacrifice to the taxpayer.

HUNGARY.—The Hungarian Government has long been at issue with the Servian Church Congress about the election of the Patriarch, and now again two attempts have been made to elect a Patriarch who should be acceptable to the Crown, which has the right of veto, and, eventually, the right of nomination. On the first occasion the Congress, though warned, again elected Bishop Stojkovics, who had been rejected once, and who had been removed from the patriarchal See. At the second election Bishop Zaivkovics, of Agram, was elected, but only by a majority, while according to precedent the election must be unanimous. There is, indeed, one exception, in the case of the late Patriarch, whose election, though only by a majority, was sanctioned by the Crown, but in that case the Patriarch elected was considered by the Crown to be the fittest man. The point to be decided will be, therefore, whether the same exception should be made now in the case of the man lately elected, or whether, there being no chance of an unanimous election, the Crown should exercise its right of nomination. This long-pending struggle between the Crown and the Servian Church Congress, though it turns nominally about the person of the Patriarch, is really a struggle for supremacy between the Conservative and Radical elements for the management of the large property with which the Servian Church of Hungary is endowed. The franchise for the election of the members of the Congress being very liberal, the majority is invariably secured by the Radical party, and thereby the ascendency also in the management of the property. The experience of several years has proved that this was not quite safe unless there was a Patriarch sufficiently firm and independent to exercise proper control. The Radical party, under the weak Patriarch Stojkovics, are said to have devoted considerable portions of the revenue, not to schools and churches, but to purposes of national agitation. Thus, with the present organisation of the Servian Church, the balance of power between the Conservative and Radical elements depends altogether on the person of the Patriarch, and naturally both sides have been endeavouring to do all in their power to get their man elected and confirmed by the Crown.

NAPLES.—The *Times* correspondent writes from Naples, Christmas Day, 1881:—

Christmas has presented itself in a more appropriate character than we had hoped for. The south-west winds which have blown so long and violently, and have deluged the country, have now retired and given place to a north-easterly wind equally strong. Not a sail is to be seen on the Bay, and the "black cap" on the heights warns the sailor not to venture out. In short, it is a violent tempest, which will not much affect Naples, over which it blows, but it is to be feared will occasion much damage on coasts exposed to it. However, it has drawn us together round our fires, for, though it is not cold, Boreas drives us to our natural Christmas centre, where we chat over the past, and wish each other a happy, if not a merry Christmas, and think lovingly of the dear old country. Last week brought us scarcely anything but squalls of wind and rain, which swept through the Toledo, upsetting or soaking the stalls with their array of pretty things. Alas! for the "small" merchants, whose hopes of gain have been so disappointed, and alas! for thousands of children, both small and great, who have been long looking forward to the glories of the Christmas fair. Yesterday the Zampognari chanted their last carols, and to-morrow they will be returning to their snowclad mountains. All regret their departure, for though bagpipes are not the most musical instrument one can listen to, still to the ears of the Southerners they announce the advent of festivities and of social meetings, which almost cease to interest with their realisation. It is somewhat of a dangerous route by which the Zampognari retrace their steps, and, laden as they are with their gains, they offer no slight temptation to many whom they meet. Their wealth consists of coppers, and a large bag full they carry about with them; but they take care to convert them into something more portable in the form of paper money. "May the Madonna accompany them!" say their countrymen, for they carry with them what is to support themselves and their families during the rigid winter. Yesterday was a busy day, and one of anxious expectation. A fast was observed till the evening, when ample amends were made for abstinence. How laden were the tables! Not an ounce of meat could be seen, but Italians know well how to supply the deficiency. There is salt fish, of course, but dressed in so novel and savoury a way that the most decided *gourmet* could not fail to be pleased; and there is the *capitone*, the great greasy eel, for which the poor man would sell his mattress; and there is a variety of other fish; and there are "Zeppole de San Giuseppe," made of and cooked in oil, for all animal fat is abjured. Bacchus is as well represented as the Saints, and fruits of all kinds abound. But the guest must not linger too long over these luxuries, for the *præsepe* has to be visited, and there is also midnight Mass, a grand occasion for flirting and jollity. There is immense rivalry among the "Parrochi" as to whose *præsepe* shall be the most beautiful, and thousands, from devotion and curiosity, go to visit them; also from other motives, for in the darkness and stillness of night many "pretty nothings" are whispered, which during the coming Carnival are developed into very large somethings. And so Christmas Eve has passed in Naples, and now reposes with its ancestors. It has been a merry time, despite storm and rain, and the poor have been provided for largely; for, like the old English gentleman, it may be said of the Neapolitan, "he ne'er forgot the poor." As to riot and uproar, they are a matter of course—without them there can be no rejoicing in the South. Pistols and guns have been fired from the windows almost over the heads of the police, and in spite of several prohibitions from the Questor. But who cares for them in a country where crime is met with sympathy, and the criminal is sure of the compassion of the masses? A truce, however, to criticism and censure: it has been a happy Christmas to the many, and long may they live to enjoy others!

TURKEY.—A *Times* telegram from Tunis, dated the 4th, asserts:—

"It has transpired that the French authorities have requested the Bey to bring his brother, Taib Bey, to justice. An order has been sent to the heads of the Tunis police ordering the arrest of persons circulating information as to the probability of aid coming from Constantinople, or using inflammatory language against the French."

The following is dated Constantinople, the 5th inst.:—

"The Sultan's designs for extending his authority in Northern Africa are threatened by a new danger. Intelligence has been received from Paris that M. Gambetta really intends to follow in Tunis the policy of the English Government in the Transvaal, and to grant to the Regency a large measure of autonomy. This intelligence has caused considerable anxiety at Yildiz Kiosk, because it is feared that such a policy might detach Tunis from Constantinople, and undermine the immense influence which the Sultan has acquired among all sections of the native population since the French invasion. The danger is certainly great, but the Sultan has shown himself equal to the occasion by adroitly taking advantage of two weak points in the French project. The first weak point is the intention to keep the present Bey on the throne in accordance with the Treaty of the Bardo. Knowing that the Bey and all his family have been since the signing of the treaty detested and despised as traitors to their country and their faith, his Majesty conceived the project of creating autonomy under a more popular candidate, and the candidate who has been chosen is no other than Ali Ben Khalifa, the chief of the insurgents. The second weak point in the French project is the intention of imposing on the Regency the costs of the war and the indemnity for losses sustained by subjects of foreign Powers, and efforts are already being made here to stir up popular discontent with regard to this matter. Thus, for example, in to-day's *El Djewaib*, the Panislamist organ, which notoriously draws its inspiration from the Palace, and, being in the Arabic language, circulates largely in Northern Africa, there is an article which contains the following significant passage:—'We understand that M. Gambetta is disposed to make concessions in Tunis, but we do not wish to discuss that question. We may, however, ask the French Government who is to pay the losses sustained by the British and Italian colonists in Tunis? Though the native Mahometans may be treated by France as sheep to be shorn at discretion, England and Italy will not allow the interests of their subjects to be trodden under foot by French soldiers. There is also another question of international interest which has been raised. The French invasion has caused so much injury to agriculture that the January coupon of the debt will probably not be paid, and France must be held responsible for the default.'

"*El Djewaib* says nothing about the intention of putting forward Ali Ben Khalifa as candidate for the post of Bey, but it confesses to being in direct correspondence with that influential chief, and declares on his authority that the Arabs were never before so united, and that 170,000 men will be ready to take the field next spring.

"With regard to the policy and intentions of the Turkish Government *El Djewaib* is equally indiscreet. In an article entitled 'The Secret of the Tunisian Question,' it declares openly that it is in consequence of an understanding with Germany that Turkish troops have not yet been sent to Tunis, and it finds in this matter for extolling the wisdom of the Sultan. 'Behold! Mussulmans,' it exclaims, 'the good intentions of our Caliph and his profound thought on the Tunisian question. It is neither from poverty nor from fear of France, nor from the weakness of our soldiers, that our Sultan has not yet occupied Tunis, but simply because we are awaiting events.' It is not a little significant that in a country where the Press is under the arbitrary control of the authorities, articles of this kind should be published by a paper which is known to be the organ of the Palace, and that all the representations made on the subject by the French Ambassador should be overlooked by the Government. For any disastrous consequences which may ensue Prince Bismarck must be held in some measure responsible, for he has not yet dispelled the expectation created by the Berlin Mission. He is beginning to feel, however, it would seem, the inconveniences of a Turkish alliance, as the Porte has received a hint from Berlin about the danger of the unconciliatory attitude which the Ottoman Commissioners have lately assumed on the question of the Russian war indemnity. The German Chancellor has no hesitation about raising unfounded expectation which increases his political influence without any expenditure on his part, but he cannot allow these expectations to trouble prematurely the friendly relations between Berlin and St. Petersburg. It is not improbable, therefore, that we may have some energetic disclaimers from Berlin, but these disclaimers will have little real value unless accompanied by a corresponding diminution of the infatuation which still exists here concerning a German alliance. As yet there are no premonitory symptoms of the revolution of feeling which must take place in the Palace when it is discovered that the wild expectations at present entertained are baseless and dangerous illusions. If German influence survives that trial it must have some very strong principle of vitality."

SOUTH AFRICA.—The following is from Durban, dated the 5th:—

"Sir Henry Bulwer's appointment as Governor causes some surprise, as it was understood that he would not return to the colony in any circumstances. The opinions expressed in the press differ widely. The Cape Ministry is understood to have insisted that the Home Government leaves them with unfettered hands to dispose of Basutoland as they think fit, or a possible alternative of combined action of the Imperial and colonial troops to enforce the High Commissioner's award; otherwise, to abandon the territory. The Native Commission here resumed its sitting to-day; a host of witnesses will be examined."

IRELAND UNDER MR. GLADSTONE.

A serious outrage is reported to have taken place near Ballincollig. A private of the Scots Greys, while returning home from Cork to the barracks, was waylaid by a number of men, by whom he was stripped and tied to a tree, where he remained until released in the morning. He has since been in hospital. On the following day some members of the same regiment were assaulted by rowdies at Ballincollig.

A Land League hunt was to have been held at Kilmurray, county Cork, on Sunday, for the purpose of killing hares and other game for the imprisoned suspects; but a strong force, gathered in from the counties of Cork and Waterford, assembled at the place, and prevented the hunt from being held.

Lord Leconfield's solicitors have been unable to collect the rents on his Lordship's property at Draymore West, county Clare, and, in asking to allow service of writs by post to be substituted, have sworn that the district is one of the most disturbed in the south of Ireland, and that the civil bill officer has been three times shot at, and no one can be found to attempt the service.

Miss Parnell presided over a meeting of the "Ladies'" Land League, which was numerously attended, in Dublin on Sunday, and challenged the Government and the police to carry out the threats contained in the recent circular to the Constabulary by arresting them. The proceedings were protracted over an hour, in order, as Miss Parnell said, to give Mr. Forester and Colonel Hillier an opportunity to carry out their threat. The police did not interfere with the meeting, and the "lady" leaguers left in a body, after declaring their intention to meet again every Sunday in defiance of the Government.

In Cork a "Ladies'" Land League meeting was held on Sunday. The police guarded the doors leading to the meeting room, but the executive gained an entrance by the back door. The police intimated that they would prosecute the owner of the house and those who had taken part in the proceedings.

The "Ladies'" Land League at Clonakilty met on Sunday. One of the local police force who attended warned the members that they were acting illegally, but they declined to desist and proceeded with their business.

A land steward named Stock, while proceeding home from Listowel on Saturday night, was attacked by four men, with disguised faces, who took away all his money, and, stripping him naked, left him on the public road. A farmer named Long was afterwards attacked by the same party and treated in a similar way.

The 59th Regiment, with an effective strength of 30 officers and 750 men, has been despatched for service in Ireland, the troops leaving Portsmouth on Saturday in Her Majesty's ship *Assistance*.

An application has been made to the Irish Executive by the friends of Mr. John Mannagan, a "suspect" now in Dundalk gaol, who has been elected Mayor of Drogheda, requesting that he may be liberated to allow of his installation as mayor, or that the council may be permitted to perform the ceremony in prison. Replies have been received that the Government will not allow of either course being followed. Mr. O'Brien, the imprisoned editor of *United Ireland*, is about to be released from Kilmainham gaol on the ground of ill-health. He will, however, be required to leave the country.

A large body of police seized 800 copies of the *United Ireland* at the North Wall Quay on Saturday night. They had been sent in parcels, labelled "*Times*, London."

Miss Annie M'Auliffe, president, Miss Ellie Hannigan, secretary, and two other young "ladies," members of the Drumcollogher Land League, were arrested on Sunday, and, refusing to give bail, were taken to Limerick gaol.

On Saturday night a bailiff named Mullany was attacked by a party of men as he was returning to Claremorris from Castlebar market, and rendered senseless.

On Saturday evening three young men named Corbett, and a man named Shea, all sons of tenant farmers, and a girl named Brennan, were arrested on the charge of murderously assaulting a process-server named Sheedy, who was proceeding to Ballyneal, county Waterford, to serve writs. He was met on the road by a crowd, who took the writs from him and pushed them into his mouth. The unfortunate man was otherwise seriously maltreated, but was ultimately allowed to escape on promising that he would not again be found writ-serving in that part of the country. The prisoners were brought before Captain Slack, R.M., on Saturday evening, and remanded to Clonmel gaol, Sheedy not being out of danger.

A Carrick-on-Shannon telegram says:—A body of over 400 men proceeded on Monday to hold a Land League meeting near Strokestown. Two constables called upon them to disperse, but they refused to do so, attacking and disarming the constables, whom they beat in a brutal manner. They attacked and damaged a police barrack, and the houses of several tenants.

Five further arrests have been made in connection with the capture of Connell, at Mushera, on the 27th ult. In the documents found upon this man, the house of a man named Twohig, of Horsemount, was mentioned as the place where the "Moonlight" band should assemble preparatory to setting out on their mission of outrage. The house of Shea, where Connell was seized, was also indicated as the spot where the intended assassins should be furnished with arms. The police had reason to believe that the members of Twohig's household had some complicity in the outrages which had already taken place in the district, and on Monday night the Sub-Inspector of Macroom, with a force of twenty men, proceeded on cars and arrested James and Jeremiah Twohig, sons of Twohig, at Horsemount. They next arrested Shea and his two sons, John and Timothy. The five prisoners were charged before the magistrates at Macroom on Tuesday—the elder Shea with having arms in a proclaimed district, and the four younger prisoners with being concerned as principals in the attack upon Mrs. Fitzgerald's house. They were remanded.

O'Donovan Rossa's paper calls on the President of the United States to declare war instantly against England because copies of it have been seized by order of the British Government.

Mr. B. Billington, land surveyor, after surveying and valuing property near Belmullet on Monday, for Mr. A. S. Bingham, of Doolough Lodge, was met by a number of persons, who threatened him. A pistol shot was discharged from among the crowd in the direction of Mr. Billington. He returned the fire and the mob dispersed. News reached Dublin on Monday that on Sunday evening the Rev. Mr. Gaffney, a Roman Catholic clergyman, was fired at near Ballaghadereen, county Mayo, by a car-driver. Mr. Gaffney, not being wounded, seized his assailant and held him until the arrival of the police, who took him into custody. An armed party visited the house of a man named Laven, near Castlebar, a few nights ago, and beat him severely. The priest and doctor were soon in attendance, and pronounced Laven's life to be in imminent danger. The same party visited the house of a man named Carty, who, however, escaped. Laven and Carty had paid their rents. On Monday over 400 persons, carrying banners, armed with sticks, and accompanied by dogs, broke into a demesne at Mantua, near Carrick-on-Shannon, and held a Land League hunt, killing a large quantity of game. Some constables endeavoured to interfere, but were beaten off. Several shots were discharged outside the bedroom window of Mr. William Simpson, poor-law guardian and farmer, Killeen, near Armagh, early on Sunday morning. Mr. Simpson lately received threatening letters.

An address to the followers of the Land League in Ireland, signed by several prominent Irish representatives, is about to be issued on the subject of agrarian outrages. The document, it is said, counsels those to whom it is addressed to make known their repudiation of agrarian crime; and, while by no means admitting that any of the offences referred to are traceable to the Land League movement, contends that the suppression of the local organisations and the imprisonment of the local leaders destroyed the organisation of local public opinion, which had proved itself capable of securing order while at the same time protecting and vindicating the rights and interests of the agricultural classes in Ireland. The address calls upon the tenant farmers to maintain their policy of "passive resistance," and under no circumstances to permit themselves to be provoked into acts of disorder by the organised and armed forces arrayed against them and their cause.

Upwards of three thousand Irish landlords attended the meeting in the Concert-hall of the Exhibition Palace, Dublin, on Tuesday. The Duke of Abercorn presided, and in opening the proceedings explained that they met in no spirit of hostility to the Government. There had been repeated assurances that the Land Act would be administered with justice and impartiality, but he complained that the reductions had been made without the assistance of competent valuators. Many of the Sub-Commissioners had little or no acquaintance with lands or methods of valuation, and undertook to do in an off-hand and haphazard manner that which competent valuators would not do without many days' investigation. The valuation as it was made by the Sub-Commissioners was nothing but a preposterous farce. It was impossible to overrate the injustice of such wholesale reductions. He believed that if reductions in rent had been fairly made, the Irish landlords would not have complained. The Sub-Commissioners had been selected because they were antagonistic to the landlords and favourable to the tenants. All, with but three or four exceptions, were men of strong Liberal or partisan principles. It was into the hands of such men that the whole fortune of the Irish landlords was committed. The landlords of Ireland would maintain their right for the impartial administration of justice, and would not allow their property to be sacrificed in the vain attempt to propitiate a homicidal Land League.

Lord Dartrey proposed a resolution expressing alarm that the Land Act is being administered in a manner at variance with the pledge that it would not diminish the value or disturb the foundations of property, and contrary to the assurance on the face of which Parliament was advised not to provide compensation. Lord Ardilaun seconded the motion, and explained that the object of the meeting was to protest against the manner in which the Act was being administered. Lord James Butler protested

against the terms of the resolution, and proposed to add :—

That this great meeting pledges itself by every constitutional means to obtain the modification and reform of an unjust law and to uphold the rights of all kinds of property, and to maintain undisturbed all contracts and the freedom between man and man in this realm.

Mr. Gibson, M.P., was of opinion that the words suggested by Lord James Butler were out of order, and could not be moved in the form suggested; but the motion was amended, and carried amid loud applause.

Lord Waterford moved a resolution stating that in the appointment of many of the Sub-Commissioners considerations which would ensure the impartial and judicial exercise of their functions, and command the confidence of suitors and of the public, had been overlooked. He remarked that when the Land Bill was introduced to Parliament the Government promised that the question of fair rent would be decided by a competent and impartial tribunal. Would any one say that this promise had been fulfilled? Indeed, if there were not an adequate remedy in the track of the Sub-Commissioners the fame of England as a justice-loving country would be lost, and the reputation of the greatest advocate of justice in modern times would be blasted. The resolution, having been seconded by Mr. Mahoney, was adopted.

Mr. Arthur Kavanagh proposed, and Mr. Longworth seconded, a resolution protesting in the strongest manner against the action of the Sub-Commissioners. This having been adopted, Lord Westmeath moved a resolution pointing out the necessity for disposing without delay of the present appeals, and in the event of the decisions of the Assistant-Commissioners being upheld, of obtaining through the intervention of the Legislature compensation for the landlords. In seconding this, Colonel King-Harman observed that every one of the decisions, unfairly reducing rents, which might be upheld would so far reduce the standard of honour and integrity in the country; while every decision reversed would be a disappointment of cherished hopes, and, instead of a message of peace, the Act would bring one of bitterness and enmity. Referring to the observation of a previous speaker that if the decisions were upheld the landlords of Ireland would have no course open to them but to emigrate, the speaker said there was another course which he hoped they would adopt—that of united and resolute action.

A resolution for the adoption of a petition to the Queen was proposed by Mr. Penrose Fitzgerald and seconded by Lord De Freyne. Lord Belmore proposed the last resolution, to the effect that copies of the petition should be forwarded to the Lord-Lieutenant and the Prime Minister. It was seconded by Colonel Folliott, and shortly afterwards the meeting terminated.

THE RECENT EXPERIENCES OF AN IRISH LANDLORD.

Mr. W. Sinclair, J.P., D.L., of county Donegal, sends the *St. James's Gazette* the following letter, in continuation of one from him printed on Dec. 28 :—

"I beg your indulgence for a few more remarks on the accusation of apathy and want of energy which the *Times* and *Daily News* so liberally pour forth upon the heads of Irish landlords. It would be a kind action of our mentors to give us some definite notion of the way in which we ought to display our activity; but I beg to assure your readers that, although we do not exactly know what is expected of us, we are not so inert as is assumed. Last summer I met at a foreign watering-place a peppery Scotch gentleman, who, hearing me and another Irishman discussing the details of roasting a bailiff alive, and some other social amenities of the daily life of our country, burst out :—'By heavens, you deserve no better! When one of these things happens you should just take your gun and go down into the village and shoot two or three of those fellows, and you would soon put an end to such doings.' This was his idea of energy; but I am afraid that if we went and put it in practice some people might accuse us of 'trop de zèle.' Still, I maintain that no one has a right to twit us with neglecting our duties without informing us, as he did, wherein we fall short; and I think that a close examination of the circumstances will show not only that the landlords have not been so far behindhand, but that the friends of law and order generally have failed to obtain at the hands of the Government the encouragement they are entitled to receive when they are called upon to offer their bodies as targets for Land League bullets, or their property as material for Fenian bonfires. One of the common forms of agrarian outrage at the present moment is murder or maiming for disobedience to the 'No-rent' manifesto issued by the Kilmainham Parliament. Mr. Gladstone has given direct encouragement to this class of crime, by doing away with the law which entitled the victim or his relations to claim compensation from the district which supplied the perpetrators. Formerly the usual punishment for transgressing Land League law was burning stacks or maiming cattle; but now, by the action of the Government, it is rendered more economical to send a charge of shot into the legs of a man than to hough a bullock. Again, in case the executioners of the *lex Parnelliana* choose to take the milder course and burn a man's homestead or hayrick, no compensation can be awarded to him beyond the actual market value of the property destroyed. He is, by the very act of the incendiary, Boycotted. Not a single neighbour will help him to extinguish the flames; not a door will be opened to receive his wife or children as they fly from under their blazing roof; not a man is to be found who will for love or money supply a pound of hay to keep his cattle from starvation. Ought not a man under such circumstances to receive something more than the mere market price of his hayrick, or the actual cost of replacing his dwelling? Are we to be blamed for pointing out to the Government and the nation the wickedness and injustice of the course which is being pursued? And is it either unnatural or reprehensible that in so doing we should call a spade a spade?

"Again, there is no denying that the most frequent, direct, and exciting cause of bloodshed and resistance to the law has been the service of processes by bailiffs. In all cases where affidavits are sworn showing that violent resistance has been made to the service of such processes, the Superior Courts will, after a tedious and costly application, order service by registered letter to be sufficient; but in the first instance the bailiff must put himself in the way of being perhaps murdered, perhaps stripped and flogged with furze bushes—a variety of torture for inflicting which a Lady Land Leaguer is at present undergoing a short imprisonment. Why should not such service, with some modification, be declared good enough under existing circumstances in all land cases, without exposing bailiffs to be murdered or tortured; or an actual army sent forth to protect them, and constantly return *re infectâ*? I have before me a letter from a friend on the borders of this county, who writes :—'As the sessions are drawing near, and the county court judge will not hold posting notices good in ejectment cases, unless several attempts at personal service have been made, I applied for police protection, on the ground that the terms imposed by the county court judge entailed risk of life I added that I was certain that a small force would be sufficient. The answer was that it is against orders to send out small protective parties of constabulary. To a second letter the reply was a reference to recent orders with respect to posting notices under certain circumstances. I then wrote that, as I had no time to spare, I would bring a party of loyal Ulster men, who would protect my bailiff and themselves, and that if there were any coroners' inquests in consequence it would not be my fault. As fast as it could come I had a telegraphic message to beg that I would stay proceedings until the "Castle" could be communicated with; and in a very short space of time another, to say that my request would be complied with in every particular.' My friend is a man of 'energy,' and has reaped his reward; but it is not everyone who could have put the pressure he did on the Government; and but for this letter the way in which he 'did his duty as a landlord' would be unknown to fame. Again, in a neighbourhood with which I am concerned an agreement was come to by a number of conterminous landed proprietors, that as there was a general conspiracy to pay no rent, although the people were well able to do so, a certain number of townlands on each estate, in proportion to its extent, should be marked out to receive wholesale notices of ejectment; and that, if the rent and costs were not paid before the quarter sessions, decrees should be taken out and executed in every case where the tenants did not come in and show good grounds for asking for delay; and that if the other tenants who had not been 'noticed' had not by that time paid their rents, similar proceedings should be taken against them without a day's delay. The sessions will be in a fortnight; many tenants have come in and paid, and we have reason to hope that there will be but few actual evictions. This affects some thousand tenants, but will not be chronicled in the newspapers. Indeed I am not sure that I am acting prudently in recording it; though, on the whole, I think it better that we should not suffer ourselves to be misrepresented without contradiction; and the most efficient way of doing so is by such meetings as we have held, and, *pace* the *Daily News*, mean to hold again. Nor is it out of place that lieutenants of counties and magistrates of long experience should tell plainly to the Government the amount of their mistakes and shortcomings. They are not entirely such dolts as Gladstonian partisans would have them supposed; nor is their advice or word of warning so utterly to be despised. For instance, the magistrates of this county met some three months ago to make some representations as to its condition and the needful remedies. Attention was specially called to the mischief being done by the Land League and Fenian press. Our resolutions had hardly been published, when Lord Spencer, on the part of the Government, in an after-dinner speech, reviled us as a set of stupid Midases for asking the Government to do what was 'ultra vires,' as they had no power to deal with the press save by prosecutions, which would be certainly tedious and probably abortive. It seems they have made some new discovery; and I shall be a little disappointed if our Lord-Lieutenant does not see some remarks on his superior wisdom, and also if it is not pointed out that the wretched half-measures which are now being taken are worthless and contemptible. But the Gladstonian cry, as emitted by the mouth of Lord Hartington, is :—'Patience, patience, and still more patience!' to which the reply of the Land Leaguers, male and female, is—'De l'audace, de l'audace, et encore de l'audace!' Ours, I think, may fairly be, in the words of the old Roman—'Quousque tandem abutere patientiâ nostrâ?'"

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. Jones Jenkins was returned without opposition on Wednesday as M.P. for the Carmarthen Boroughs.

Sir H. Bulwer, at present Lieutenant-Governor, has been appointed Governor of Natal.

Sir Erskine Perry has resigned his office as member of the Indian Council.

The Duke of Argyll has written a letter controverting a recent statement of Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., to the effect that the original objects of the Irish Land League were perfectly legal and were approved by the Government.

A Conservative working men's club was opened on Wednesday at Peterborough. It contains reading-rooms and library, coffee and smoking saloons, and a lecture-hall. Addresses were delivered by local Conservatives and by Mr. J. C. Edmunds, of London, the president of the Workmen's Constitutional and Patriotic Union, who strongly supported the agitation for reciprocity, or fair trade, affirming that we had never really had free trade, but that the system designated "free" trade would, if continued, ultimately bring upon us utter ruin.

A meeting of Conservatives was held on Thursday evening in the Albert Hall, Sheffield, when Mr. C. STUART WORTLEY, M.P., delivered his annual address to his constituents. There were about four thousand persons present. Mr. H. E. WATSON presided, and the platform was crowded with prominent members of the Conservative party in the town. Mr. WORTLEY, M.P., who was received with cheers, said that those who remembered his election speeches of 1880 would be prepared to hear him say that he could not be a party to any departure from the principles of free trade. One very curious phenomenon was to be observed with regard to the French Treaty. Our free-trade-at-any-price Government were actually negotiating a reciprocity treaty with France. He hoped that in seeking to persuade the French negotiators not to tax Sheffield and other British manufactures quite so high as heretofore, Sir Charles Dilke would not omit to remind them that we are now raising about £4,000,000 a year by Customs duties upon tea and coffee, and making the working man's wife pay for every lb. of tea 6d. more than she would have to pay if that amount of duty were raised in some other way. Speaking on the question of English land reform, he said he was in favour of the tenant for life having every latitude for raising, by the sale of part of his estate, the funds necessary for approved purposes of legitimate agricultural improvement. Dealing with Ireland, he said they must teach the Government that if they wished for the support of their opponents in such efforts as they made to vindicate the common cause of the loyal inhabitants of these realms, the Government must disregard the seductive advice of the extreme party among their own followers. At the end of the proceedings a vote of confidence in the hon. member was passed.

Mr. EDWARD CLARKE, M.P., addressing his constituents at Plymouth, stated that the year 1881 would be memorable for three great disasters. The first was the death of Lord Beaconsfield, the second was the disgraceful and disastrous surrender of the Transvaal, and the third was the passing of the Irish Land Act. That Act he regarded as having broken up the principles of our own home government, as having weakened our power over our own people, and as having tended to destroy our influence abroad. In times past, when a state of things scarcely less infamous had existed in foreign countries, England had not been slow to remonstrate, and with justice. The present state of affairs was one which Englishmen should carefully watch. He complained that the present Government, in obtaining a Coercion Act which they did not intend to immediately use, had perpetrated a deliberate fraud upon the House of Commons. They had misused the confidence which had been reposed in them at a moment represented as being of extreme peril. He believed if Lord Derby had said in the House of Lords, in regard to the Irish Land Act, what he had written in the *Nineteenth Century*, that Act would never have become law. Imprisonment without trial was one of the most grotesque resources of despotism rather than one of the resources of modern civilisation. He hoped the Government would take warning by what had occurred. He did not want them to be turned out just yet, preferring that a Ministry which by its acts and words had encouraged the growth of so treasonable a spirit should, with a timely reconstruction of its Cabinet, have the work of bringing about the pacification of that unhappy country.

Mr. BRIGHT addressed another meeting of his supporters in Birmingham on Thursday. He adverted to the terror with which the reduction of the franchise in 1866 was greeted in certain quarters, and pointed to the falsification of the opinions then expressed by the Tories, as a ground for faith that the reduction of the county franchise will be a beneficial measure for the country. Land Reform was a question now universally admitted to be imperative, and it simply resolved itself into two requirements—complete freedom from restriction in buying and selling, and relief from the control of the disposition of land by dead ancestors. Upon the licensing question he advocated the issue of licences being left in the hands of the municipal authorities.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, at the same meeting, insisted upon the prime necessity in the ensuing session of reforming the procedure of the House of Commons. The object of the House was to carry into effect the decisions which the people had arrived at; and this could not be done until the power of obstructive minorities was limited. Referring to the list of measures which he waited with anxiety for time to introduce, he enumerated Bills relating to shipping, the bankruptcy laws, railway management and charges, besides others. He was pledged, he added, to an amendment of the patent laws next session.

The establishment of the West Kent and Greenwich Carlton Club was inaugurated on Tuesday evening by a meeting of the members in the assembly room of the Green Man Hotel, Blackheath. The chair was taken by Colonel Sir J. F. LENNARD, who announced that 420 Conservative electors in the borough of Greenwich and the Western Division of Kent had already joined the club. Sir CHAS. MILLS, M.P., who expressed belief that such an institution was calculated to prove of great service to the Conservative cause in that locality, moved a resolution affirming the necessity of improved political organisation. Baron HENRY DE WORMS, M.P., who, on rising to second the resolution, was received with great cheering, contrasted the unpatriotic conduct of the Liberal leaders when in Opposition with the present appeals to the forbearance of the Conservative party and their designation of all hostile criticism as abuse. No one would deprecate more than himself the indulgence in mere political abuse, but unfortunately they had now so much to criticise in the action of the present Government that the latter had no right to complain of the words applied to them: on the contrary, the Opposition might rather complain that the English language scarcely furnished them with adequate terms of condemnation (Cheers.) A Liberal writer in *Fraser* had just observed that in ten months the feeling of embitterment towards the existing Government became as great as it was in 1874 after Mr. Gladstone had been in office for six years. (Cheers.) The hon. member censured severely the conduct of the Ministry in regard to Ireland, and characterised as sophistry the distinction which Mr. Chamberlain, in endeavouring to explain away his admission that the Government for a time winked at the doings of the agitators, had attempted to set up between the avowed and the unavowed objects of the Land League. (Cheers.) What was to be said of a Cabinet which, in deference to the obtuseness or the humanitarianism of the members for Birmingham, refused to see what everybody else saw, and declined to prevent those fearful acts of lawlessness and disorder, which, beginning a year since, had now reached a climax in the sister country? There was more than criminal negligence in a policy of that sort. (Cheers.) Having dwelt on the inconsistency of the Cabinet in first yielding to the doctrine that force was no remedy, and then adopting a coercive policy as severe and autocratic as anything existing in Russia, and having expressed surprise at the unholy alliance between extreme Radicals and Whig nobles, Baron de Worms predicted that the bubble would soon burst, not, indeed, in the ordinary, harmless way of other soapy globules—(laughter)—but rather like a shell, spreading devastation right and left. (Cheers.) The policy of the Government had so far been a policy of apology, compromise, and failure. (Cheers.) The Government came in on a wave of reaction with the most brilliant prospects; it had a colossal majority, and was expected to do great things. What had it done? It had become more hated in its short career than the previous Liberal Government was in six years, and that not because of party acrimony, but because the country felt that the Ministry of the day had sacrificed the people to their own ends. (Cheers.) They had refused to listen to the ordinary dictates of common sense, and, in deference to men who had had far greater experience in the vestry than they ought ever to have been allowed to have in the House of Commons, had treated the affairs of this great country as if they were those of a village or township. (Cheers.) They initial mistake of the Government in refusing to continue the Peace Preservation Act had led up to the present terrible condition of Ireland—a state of things so deplorable that they would gladly hand over their responsibility to the Opposition. He trusted, however, that the Conservative party would not seek to take office under such conditions. (Cheers.) The time would come when the verdict of the country would have to be taken, and he believed that verdict would be one of unqualified condemnation of the present Government. (Loud cheers.)—The resolution, moved by Sir C. Mills, was carried unanimously, as was another, proposed by Mr. Boord, M.P., and seconded by Viscount Lewisham, M.P., who, alluding to Mr. Herbert Gladstone's recent statements in regard to Ireland, said he could only account for them on the principle of the proverb, "The young cock must cackle as the old cock crows." (Laughter.)—Those present then adjourned to the spacious club-house, which stands on Blackheath-hill, at the junction of the county and borough boundaries. The building was formally declared open, and there was a display of fireworks in honour of the event.

At the annual dinner of the Conservative section of the Shrewsbury Parliamentary Debating Society, held at the Crown Hotel on Tuesday evening the following letter was read from Sir Stafford Northcote to one of its members :—

Pynes, Exeter, Jan. 2.

My dear Sir,—I am much obliged by your kind letter, and am truly glad to hear that you are keeping up your family interest in the Conservative cause, for which your late father worked so hard in Exeter. There never was a time when it was of more importance for the country that those who support law, order, and the principles of the Constitution should battle firmly together. We have a hard battle before us, but we have plenty of reason for encouragement in the spirit which our friends are everywhere displaying. I remain faithfully yours,

STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

We trust that the correspondence which has been published between the Lord Mayor and Mr. Gladstone will remove the scruples which some persons might entertain with regard to subscribing to the Mansion House Fund for the defence of property in Ireland, lest they should seem to be countenancing a movement likely to assume a party character. In the present unhappy condition of Ireland it is hardly possible for any active step to be taken for the amelioration of that condition without inviting criticism from one political party or the other. When this action is taken by so prominent a person as the Lord Mayor, such a consequence is inevitable. It would, however, be hard indeed if the innocent sufferers from a state of anarchy were deprived of the help which thousands are ready to offer them, because some politicians were too thin-skinned to endure taunts that a few reckless opponents, taking advantage of an obvious opportunity, might level at them. For our own part, we believe the necessity for an explanation as to the honesty of the motives of the promoters of the Mansion House Fund must be laid at the door of Mr. Gladstone himself. That eminent statesman has so long accustomed himself to use six words to express what common mortals can say in one, that he was utterly unable to state his meaning clearly within the circumscribed limits of an ordinary telegram form. One would have supposed that the habitual use of post-cards—a short form of epistolary correspondence to which the right hon. gentleman is known to be addicted—would have taught him how to be at once concise and perspicuous. However, be this as it may, what with rather enigmatic telegrams and vicarious explanations through the medium of Mr. Herbert Gladstone, a sufficient muddle was created to serve the purposes of those who, instead of enlightenment, desired to make confusion worse confounded. Fortunately for the interests of the sufferers in Ireland, Lord Mayor Ellis turns out to be a person by no means to be trifled with, or to be diverted from the straight course by unworthy insinuations as to the motives which have actuated him. What he, at any rate, has made abundantly clear is his own entire honesty of intention from first to last. This being so, and the affair being now placed upon a satisfactory footing, we hope no one will be hindered by any fancied fear of hampering the Government on the one hand, or assisting the Opposition on the other, from giving to the movement that aid which the intelligence of every day tells us is so urgently needed.—*Field.*

The writer of "Letters to Eminent Persons" in the *World* addresses the following remarks to Sir W. V. Harcourt :—

"Let us see precisely how you stand at the present moment. You went to a somewhat extravagant extreme of drollery in your Long Vacation speeches. You said many good things, some excellent things, and one or two things of superlative merit. Quite your happiest passage, which I am greatly afraid was too subtle for the appreciation of 'the many-headed beast,' was the taunt which you levelled at poor Northcote on the subject of his 'pious opinion' in favour of Free Trade. The adaptation of Pascal's phrase was not quite accurate; but then you pride yourself upon a certain robust vein of Philistine ignorance. Thus I remember how,

in the debate in the House of Commons on the Public Worship Bill, after Mr. Gladstone had adduced a formidable list of authorities against the principle of the measure, including Van Espen and other canonical pundits, you declared, amid the cheers of the whole Chamber, 'As for Van Espen, I never heard of his name.' The remark showed a considerable knowledge of human nature. I wish I could say that the tact which you have recently displayed as Secretary of State had been equal to that knowledge. It has not. In connection with St. Paul's Industrial School scandal you wrote a letter to Mrs. Surr, which was rhetorically effective, and which overflowed with sentiments of well-simulated indignation. You thanked the lady for the timely services she had rendered to the public; you denounced the London School Board; you protested that there should be the fullest inquiry into the whole of the odious business; you rebuked in the severest manner the criminal remissness of those who had allowed scandals so great to flourish so long. But, my dear Harcourt, what was the sequel? It turned out that you had worked yourself up to this white heat of humanitarian fury without knowing that it was the Home Office, and not the School Board, which was really responsible in the matter; in other words, you were totally ignorant of the exact limits of the jurisdiction of your department. Your rebukes rebounded on yourself, and the consequence is that Mr. Scrutton goes about jubilant; and, having much influence in the Tower Hamlets, brags that he can organise the defeat of the Liberal candidates at the next General Election. Nor do I think that you can be wholly congratulated on the attitude which you have adopted towards the imprisoned bribers. You have declined to accede to the request for their release, but you have blurted out, with extraordinary indiscretion, upon so many semi-public occasions, your opinion that the sentence passed upon them was of monstrous harshness, and that you only waited to be backed by a sufficient body of public opinion to cancel their venalty, that you have gravely compromised your character for sincerity. Well, you sat for Oxford for some years, and you ought to be an authority upon electoral venality. My dear Harcourt, you must be a little more careful. If you insist upon posing before your countrymen as an official Rhadamanthus, you must not show that you are visited by any of these soft and amiable compunctions. But *apropos* of bribery and bribers, does it not occur to you that there is something else which may be said? Your colleague Dodson, of the Local Government Board, a good creature, but a very dull one, was unseated for Chester for corrupt practices. What followed? Your own cousin, Sir Harcourt Johnstone, made way for the Minister who had been the cause of wholesale bribery, and received a peerage for what, speaking roughly and metaphorically, looks not unlike 'compounding a felony.' Under these circumstances, how can you justify to yourself the detention of the agents of other men's iniquities in prison?"

LORD DERBY ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Speaking at a dinner of the Liverpool Reform Club on Wednesday evening, Lord Derby, in responding to the toast of his health, proposed by the Earl of Sefton, alluded to the fact that it was the first time he had been called upon to address a meeting of the Liberal party under such circumstances. There were always some circumstances attending a change of political connection which were disagreeable and even painful. It could not be otherwise, and it was right in the public interest that it should be so. But for himself, though a change of political alliance must always imply some modification of political ideas, he had not much to unsay of what he had said in former years. His Lordship then went on to say:—

"I have been a Conservative, but a high Tory, or, indeed a Tory at all, I never have been. High notions of prerogative and ecclesiastical privilege have found no defender in me, and still less have I ever sympathised with that curious development of modern sentiment which has got the name of Jingoism, and of which I suppose the leading idea is to be that no State can be in a healthy condition that is not occasionally pitching into its neighbour. (Cheers.) In one respect I have profited by experience and observation. I have learned more and more the uselessness, to put it on no other ground, of attempting to resist the progress of popular ideas, and I have come to think more and more highly of the moderation, the fairness, and the general justice with which masses of men, including all conditions of life, are disposed to use their power. Considering the great diversity of fortune in this country, I should have expected in 1867 a certain display of class feeling and of jealousy, not to say of bitterness, against the rich, such as is visible in Continental politics. I do not observe in England or Scotland a trace of any such feeling, and I believe that if the wealthy and educated classes will act with sense and prudence, if they will put themselves at the head of movements leading up to necessary reforms, they will not find their real interests exposed to much danger, and they may retain a large share of their former influence in the State." With regard to the immediate political future his Lordship said he thought there was a very general concurrence of opinion that the first work on hand was the improvement of the procedure of the House of Commons, and added, "You must sharpen your tools before you can use them with effect. We had to deal with obstruction of two kinds—that which is wilful and wanton and that which arises from more innocent motives. He thought the only remedy for that was that the House must do formally what, after all, it now does informally—it must fix a period when debates shall close. It was argued that if that were done minorities would be unfairly silenced. Well, if that were so, no one would suffer more than the Liberals, who generally began by being in a small minority. "But it does not follow," he continued, "if *clôture* is to be adopted, that it shall be adopted by a bare plurality of votes. That would be, in my judgment, liable to abuse, and it would be going beyond the necessities of the occasion. If debates can be closed by the vote of three-fourths of those present—or, if you will, of three-fourths of the entire House—I think you may trust to the rivalry of political parties to prevent the rule being enforced except where it is really required. And we must remember two things—first, that Parliament in these days has got to act as well as talk; next, that a section which has not got one-fourth of the House on its side can practically do nothing more even now than protest, and under modern conditions it can do that outside the House as well as inside."

After referring to the many stages through which a Bill had now to pass, which he thought unnecessary, inasmuch as one debate upon the principle of a measure, then a thorough sifting of it in Committee, and, lastly, another debate on it when the Bill comes out of Committee, would be amply sufficient, his Lordship expressed doubt as to whether the House would consent to relegate so much of its authority to any section of its members in a matter of really first-rate importance as was proposed, by dividing the House into large Committees. But, however the thing is done, he added, "I fancy we are all of one mind—that the expediting of procedure is about the first job to be taken in hand." Coming next to the question of Parliamentary Oaths Lord Derby said:—

"For my part, I utterly disbelieve in the value of political oaths. I do not see that they ever caused any man in public life to do or abstain from anything that he would have left undone or that he would have done if oaths had never existed. (Hear, hear). But they are a custom all over the world, and they do no particular harm. If we are to have any legislation on the subject the simple plan would be to allow anybody to substitute an affirmation for an oath without assigning his reason. But it is not a very urgent question, and *I should hope that if Mr. Bradlaugh again offers to take the oath as he did last year there will be no further attempt to prevent him. It is quite a new doctrine that we are to inquire into the orthodoxy or to question the sincerity of those who consent to go through the accustomed forms. If that is to be done to one member it should be done to others. I cannot but think that the House will see the matter in this light, so that the change majority of last year will be reversed, and that a question which is important on account of the principle involved, though not very much so otherwise, will be settled and put out of the way.*" The difficulty was not to name the questions pressing for solution, but to choose among them. The two which he would select as the most urgent were, better local government for the counties, and a local government for London, and these he thought might, if the Government would take them up, be settled this year. There were other matters to deal with, such as the Bankruptcy Law, River Conservancy, and the subject of licensing, none of them, perhaps, specially pressing or likely to call out strong party feeling. All he said about them was that he trusted the Cabinet and Parliament would make up their minds either to let them alone for this year or to pass them steadily through. "There is no such effective kind of obstruction as that which is wholly unintended, and which comes from the natural desire of every Government to carry through more measures than there is time for. Every department likes to have its Bill in Parliament, and the end is they obstruct one another. There is more involved than mere loss of time. The House gets sick of the subject which has been discussed again and again without result, and the oftener it has been shelved the more likely it is to be shelved again." He would say nothing about the assimilation of the borough and county franchise, which he fancied most people, whether they liked it or not, admitted to be inevitable, nor of the large redistribution of seats, which was equally a necessity, because he thought it was clear that these were measures which, whenever they were brought in, would require a session to themselves, and would compel a dissolution immediately afterwards. But all these things could wait. "What cannot wait," his Lordship added, "is the work of restoring order and peace in Ireland. Those of you who know the opinions which I have expressed know that I do not take a very cheerful or sanguine view of the situation. I am afraid the discontent and dislike of English rule, the vague but powerful sentiment of nationality which we have so often witnessed abroad, have a deeper hold of the Irish mind than we on this side have been willing to admit. What is asked for under the name of Home Rule is a separate Parliament, and I am afraid I must say I believe there is a very general wish for it among the Irish masses. If we grant their wish we virtually break up the Empire, for I suppose everybody can see that a Parliament, however limited at first in power, once established in Dublin would very soon shake off any dependence on the Parliament sitting at Westminster. If we resist—and, personally, I do not see that we have any choice—we must frankly accept the fact that we are overruling the will of the local majority; and, for my part, I see nothing arbitrary or despotic in so doing. The will of the majority, as it is argued, ought to rule. Certainly I accept that doctrine. I do more; I assert it. But in a matter that concerns the entire community it is the majority of the whole community, and not any part of it, to which I refer. There is one thing that we have a right to ask, and that is that in a time of disturbance and difficulty the Government of the day should have the support of all parties in the State. The latest charge against the Government is that they have been slack in their efforts to preserve or to restore order. I believe that a more groundless accusation never was brought against any set of men. They have, I believe, done what is possible and necessary. There is disappointment as to what they have accomplished. That is, in my belief, due to the fact that we have underrated the gravity of the situation. People talk of proclaiming martial law. What use would that be against private murders, outrages, and a systematic refusal to pay rent? You might just as well advise a householder who is afraid of burglars to protect himself by planting cannon before his door. We hear loud complaints against the decisions of the Land Courts, and we are told that demand should be made for compensation to landlords who have suffered by these decisions. Now, as to the first point, I think we ought to suspend our judgment. As to compensation, without denying that there are instances in which it might be abstractly just, I cannot see how it could be practically managed. The only persons on behalf of whom a plausible case can be made out are those who may have been harshly or hastily dealt with by the judges, but till the appeals are tried, how can we tell who they are, and how we are to pick them out of the mass? I would rather say, though respecting proprietary rights as sincerely as anyone, that in a time of revolutionary disturbance, and that is the state of things in Ireland, those whom the State at infinite cost and trouble is struggling to preserve may fairly be asked to accept the necessity of sacrifice on their side. Men whom a lifeboat has dragged out from a vessel going to pieces on the rocks must not complain too loudly if they lose some of their property in the process. As to the future, I think our course is plain. Let us grant reforms by all means, decentralisation in any practical shape, but let us hold out no false hopes of independence or of a federal system which never can work between two countries so closely connected as England and Ireland; and, on the other hand, let us have no more scolding. We are the stronger party, and can afford to keep our tempers. I have faith that in time, when people see that what they wish for is fairly and finally out of reach, they will cease first to try for it, and in the end to think about it at all. Let up hope it may be so with Home Rule." Coming to the subject of English land, his Lordship said:—

"Before we proceed to legislate, let us ask ourselves what our object is. Do we intend that the land shall yield the largest return of profit to its owners, or do we mean that it is to be made to produce the largest quantity of food for the public, or do we desire, as some people seem to do, that it should be so worked as to employ the largest possible number of people upon it? Because these three objects are quite distinct from one another—not only distinct, but incompatible, and you must settle what you aim at before you know what you want to do. Nearly everybody agrees that the present restrictions on the transfer of land cannot be maintained. I do not think it ought to be difficult to make nearly every acre in England saleable. Heavily encumbered estates are a public nuisance, and I accept and share in the general opinion that an increase in the number of landowners is desirable in the interest of the class itself. As to the relations of landlord and tenant, I shall be quite ready to support any fair plan of compensating a tenant for unexhausted improvements, but I think we shall not do wisely if we commit ourselves to any scheme of allowing him to sell what is called his interest, which really means selling something that does belong to him and a good deal that does not. These, however, are matters not very urgent. As to plans such as have been lately laid before you for cutting up estates and selling them in small bits to working men, I think they will keep. There is nothing very revolutionary in them if you pay the owner fairly. But they would probably lead to a good deal of jobbing, and if any such demand for land in small lots exists as is supposed, I do not see why you need call in the State to do what private companies are perfectly capable of doing."

MR. BRIGHT AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN AT BIRMINGHAM.

Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain addressed their constituents on Tuesday evening in the Townhall, Birmingham.

Mr. Bright, replying to the question which, he said, had been put to him, why he had been so silent during the active political discussions of the last three months, said he did not think the Government was in need of defence; but even if they were, ample defence had been made by some of his colleagues. They were charged with having isolated England and with having deprived her of allies and friends. He did not care much about allies, but he cared as much as any man living for friends—and there never was a moment when the Government of this country was more in amity with all the Governments of the world, be they Imperial, Monarchical, or Republican. He justified the course pursued in Afghanistan, and said that the thirty millions which it was estimated had been expended by the Conservative Government during the first six months of the war in Afghanistan would have been sufficient to repeal the whole of the cotton duties in India. Reverting to the question of Ireland, Mr. Bright denied that either the Liberal party or he and Mr. Chamberlain were responsible for the present state of affairs in that country. Defending the coercive policy which had been adopted, he said he did not profess to be a Democrat, but he was in favour of as much freedom as would give security to freedom; he was not in favour of a freedom which would destroy freedom. A year ago it was absolutely impossible for the Government to have taken any other course than they did. It would have been impossible for good men to go to Ireland and deal with affairs unless the authority of the Executive had been strengthened. The Tory party complained that action had not been taken before it was, but he believed that the more moderate plan of the Government, accompanied by remedial measures, was the wiser one. The remedies of the resources of barbarism were soldiers and gaols, but the resources of civilisation were restraint and broad measures of relief. At the present time in England meetings were being organised to create mischief among the Irish people of this country, and emissaries were going backwards and forwards to America with the miserable idea that there would come a time when they could imperil the safety of England. But nothing which these miserable conspiracies could effect would do that. He believed that the Imperial Parliament was as willing to do perfect justice to the people of Ireland as it possibly could. It was time that these old feuds were brushed away for ever. Englishmen were willing to efface the errors of their forefathers, and willing most liberally and emphatically to condemn them. They allowed the Irish to partake of everything that they themselves enjoyed, and they were willing to bear their share of every burden that might be placed upon them. He believed that the great measures of redress which had been passed would not fail, and that Ireland would yet become content and tranquil and loyal, as were the other possessions of the dominions of the Queen.

Mr. Chamberlain contended that the Government was attacked by the Tories because they were supposed to be laying sacrilegious hands on the rights of property in Ireland in lowering the rents in that country. Rents had been reduced by the Courts to the extent of 25 per cent, and he doubted whether that was as great as the reductions made by many landlords voluntarily without any Land Act whatever. The reduction of 25 per cent. on the present rents of the country would amount to four millions sterling, which at twenty-five years' purchase represented 100 millions of money. Mr. Chamberlain continuing, said:—

"He wanted to know if the Tories were going to follow up their present tactics in order, as a matter of fact, that they might have 100 millions of money out of the pockets of the taxpayers of England in order to put it into the pockets of the Irish landlords, who were the persons they wanted to punish for demanding such extortionate rents. What he urged was this, that if there was any compensation for the landlords it should go to the tenants. He maintained that these tenants and their predecessors had been robbed of their improvements, and all stimulus to energy had been taken away, and the cases which he had quoted were almost sufficient to account for the outrages which they all so much deplored, and which could never be justified in the legislation which had been passed. The tenantry of Ireland would find a sufficient reply to the demand for compensation, but it would never be a justification for the conduct of the men who, taking advantage of the disturbed state of the country, distinctly refused to pay any rents at all."

Defending the coercive measures of the Government, Mr. Chamberlain said:—

"I think it is much better for the people that a responsible and active Government should resort to force in order to maintain order and tranquillity rather than that it should permit an irresponsible and an unrepresentative organisation—by force also—for they use the methods of which they complain so much that they are used by the Government, to attempt to throw the country into confusion and revolution. I would test this point by asking a question. Suppose that the Irish Republic, which has apparently attained its embryonic state in America, were really to be established, and suppose Mr. Parnell himself were to be the first president of that republic, I imagine that he would be prepared under those circumstances to maintain his authority and protect his fellow-citizens by force, if force were necessary; and if any section of his countrymen combined to refuse to pay the taxes, as they now combine to refuse to pay rent, and if they adopted the same methods in order to secure success, I say it is perfectly clear that in that case Mr. Parnell and his Government would have to resort to very stringent measures of coercion, or else they and he would be swept away together; and in the present state of Ireland I do not hesitate to say that I see only one alternative to the course which we have pursued, and that is, that we should declare that the resources of statesmanship are exhausted; that we cannot govern Ireland to the satisfaction of its people; that we cannot conciliate the nation, and, therefore, that we must resolve to let them go and to establish their independence. That is the alternative which some Liberals hold we should adopt, and I admit their consistency in objecting to any resort to coercion now; but, for my part, I think it would be a conclusion so fraught with disaster to Ireland, so dangerous to the interests of England, that I will never willingly consent to it."

As to the future he remarked:—

"The Government had administered their remedy in passing the Land Act, and they believed it would be an effectual if not an instantaneous cure. He predicted that the Government in a few years would have wrought a great social transformation as important as that carried through with so much bloodshed in the French Revolution, and they would enlist on the side of law and order tens, hundreds, and thousands of men who were now embittered and estranged by a sense of suffering and wrong. In two or three years, 10,000 landlords in Ireland would be reinforced by tenfold that number of tenants, whose rights of property would be as well defined and as secure as the rents of the freeholders themselves, and the great army of citizens having given hostages to fortune would be hereafter a potent force in the maintenance of tranquillity and peace. He appealed to all who were present and to Liberals throughout the country at least to believe that the Government, who had been so reluctant to employ coercion, who had been so eager to redress grievances, would joyfully seize the first opportunity which might present itself to remove the restrictions which it had been necessary to impose on the few for the protection of the many, would complete and continue the task of satisfying every reasonable desire of the Irish people, and would omit nothing which justice could demand or which generosity could conceive, and which could in any way conduce to the happiness and welfare of the Irish subjects of the Queen."

AN ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTION AT GIBRALTAR.

Peaceful Gibraltar has for some time past been in a state of ferment on a question deeply concerning the greater part of the inhabitants of the fortress and town—viz., the civil Roman Catholic population, who number 15,500 out of a total of 18,000 inhabitants; and the subject of difference at issue has reached such a degree of bitterness that there seems little prospect of arriving at any arrangement satisfactory to both of the contending parties—who are the Roman Catholic population on the one side and their lately appointed Vicar-Apostolic on the other.

Dating from the time of the English occupation of Gibraltar in 1701, at which all the rights and priviledges of their religion were guaranteed to the Roman Catholics, the temporalities of their church have been administered by a body of laymen, in conjunction with the Vicar-Apostolic and his Vicar-General, under certain regulations for their election, qualifications, &c., their duty being to administer the moneys received in the maintenance of the Cathedral Church and the payment of the stipends of the clergy. The rights of this body are incontestable, and have been confirmed, not only by the local Supreme Court, but also by the Privy Council of England. Attempts have been made by the different heads of the clerical body to set these rights aside, notably in 1841, which resulted in the triumph of the "Junta," and the imprisonment of the then Vicar-Apostolic for contempt of Court in refusing to carry out the judgment of the Supreme Court; and later, in the time of the late Vicar-Apostolic, Dr. Scandella, who practically ignored their authority, and in whose lifetime the

question was never brought to an issue. He died in July, 1880, and early in the present year, on the recommendation of the Roman Catholic clergy, and, it is believed, also on a suggestion from Dr. Scandella before his death, Dr. Gonzalo Canilla was appointed Vicar-Apostolic to succeed him. He was installed in London by Cardinal Manning as Bishop of Lystra *in partibus* and Vicar-Apostolic of Gibraltar. Dr. Canilla was not a *persona grata* to the Gibraltar people, who considered that, neither by position, experience, nor attainments, was he a qualified person to fill so high an office in their Church. He is an inhabitant of Gibraltar, young in the priesthood, and his charge had been no more than that of Assistant-Military Chaplain to the troops. Great opposition was offered from the very first when his name was suggested as having been recommended to Rome. Public meetings were held, at which a great deal of strong language was used, and the movement against the appointment became very general and assumed considerable proportions. In deference to this action on the part of the inhabitants, Dr. Canilla, who, personally, is greatly respected, declined the offer of his high position when it was first intimated to him from Rome, but afterwards accepted it, and proceeded to England, where he was installed as above stated. His absence, however, in no way tended to abate the feeling of opposition against his appointment in Gibraltar. Further public meetings were held, and it was resolved that the people would not accept him as their Vicar-Apostolic, but that on his return to Gibraltar he should be prevented from entering the Cathedral Church altogether.

In pursuance of this resolution, when Dr. Canilla arrived at Gibraltar, in August last, a large crowd had assembled at the Cathedral Church, and when the Vicar-Apostolic, who, accompanied by his brother only, had walked up from the wharf where he had landed, reached the door of the church, where he halted for a moment, cries of "Fuera! Fuera!" (Be off) saluted him. There was no hostile demonstration, although the people presented a passive, but effectual, barrier to his reaching the door. He then walked on, proceeding to his house. Subsequently, and on several occasions since mediation has been attempted by a few members of the Roman Catholic community in the matter; but the malcontents have shown themselves thoroughly determined, and have watched the church night and day to frustrate any attempt of the Vicar to enter. Shortly after his arrival from England, the Bishop of Cadiz came to Gibraltar and held many interviews with prominent members of the the malcontents, but he was able to effect nothing. In the meantime, a large meeting of Catholics was held at the theatre, and a so-called "Junta" appointed by the people to take charge of their interests and to represent the "Junta," or church body, whose active jurisdiction had lapsed as before stated. The state of popular feeling during all these occurrences was very excited, and the Gibraltar Spanish papers added fuel to the flame by their published articles on the vexed question, all of them being on the side of the dissentients.

A few weeks ago arrived at Gibraltar the Rev. Canon Weld, on a mission from Rome, to smooth, if possible, these troubled waters; but all his attempts have been futile, and the state of affairs is worse than ever. He also held many interviews with the members of the opposite parties, and a fresh attempt was decided on for the Vicar-Apostolic to enter the Cathedral Church. Accordingly, at nine o'clock in the morning, he arrived in a car, accompanied by Mr. Weld, and made his way to the entrance of the church, where his further advance was barred by some members of the last elected "Junta," and the whole precincts filled with a crowd more turbulent than on former occasions. Some conversation took place, which was interrupted by continued and angry cries of "Fuera," "Que se vaya" (Let him go away), &c.; and the aspect of the crowd being decidedly hostile, the Vicar-Apostolic and his companion at length retired under the protection of the police, and made their way to Dr. Canilla's house, followed by a large mob of people. Some days afterwards Mr. Weld left for Cadiz, but returned on the 11th inst., and, for some reason hardly explainable, took up his residence in the dwelling rooms of the priests attached to the Cathedral Church, and in the very rooms appropriated solely for the Vicar-Apostolic. It is not certain whether this was done by authority of the Vicar-Apostolic or by permission of others of the clergy, but the people considered there was some motive in it detrimental to their attitude, and accordingly a deputation of the "Junta" waited on the senior priest, whose authority is now recognised, Dr. Vallares, Vicar-General, and requested him to desire Mr. Weld to leave the apartments, warning him that he remained there probably at his own risk. The deputation called at the church the same evening, at eight o'clock, to receive the Vicar-General's reply; he and other priests accompanied them to the door of the rooms, which Mr. Weld had closed and fastened; and failing to obtain any reply from him they withdrew, when some of the mob, who had assembled outside and in the church courts, broke in the doors of the apartments, and, amid much confusion, expelled Mr. Weld violently into the street, which he reached minus hat and slippers. The police protected him to a lodging-house, and afterwards charged many persons with the violent assault on the reverend gentleman, their case being now under investigation at the police-court. Nothing can justify this assault, but even the most impartially disposed can but consider Mr. Weld's conduct as provocatory. This, the worst, is the last stage at which the matter has arrived, and it seems quite clear that further disorderly scenes may be apprehended if Dr. Canilla's appointment is to be persisted in.—*Times.*

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THE RECENT AMATEUR RELIGIOUS CENSUS IN SOME TOWNS.

The *St. James's Gazette* of December 31, 1881, under the title of "The Periodical Trick," publishes the following incisive and instructive article on this subject:—

"It is perhaps a little unfortunate that the duty of examining or denying the inferences which the political Nonconformists are building on the periodical trick which they practise upon the carelessness of the British public should fall almost entirely upon clergymen. They naturally look upon the state of religious feeling in the nation from their professional point of view; and thus, when they are told that a great many more Dissenters were at chapel than Churchmen at church at particular times on a particular Sunday, they were not altogether safe judges of the meaning of the phenomenon. Some English clergymen, and especially the Bishop of Winchester, have written very sensible letters on the subject; but still every clergyman feels himself more or less under the necessity of admitting that the staying away of so many from Church is a very dreadful thing, or, as the *Times* with its usual clumsiness puts it, a proof of heathenism. Yet no layman, certainly no educated layman, can look around him and fail to see that the fact does not prove the inference. He would laugh if he were told that the laxity of his friends in church-going shows that they are utterly dead to religious susceptibility, or that they are indifferent between the Church and Dissent. The simple truth is, that "going to church" has ceased to be the outward and visible sign of religious communion which it once was. We merely note the fact; we do not seek to explain it, and indeed its causes are so complex that it would be absurd to try to account for it in a limited space. And, the fact being so, we say that it does not prove—nay, that it does not even tend to prove—any one of the conclusions which the Dissenters draw from their carefully manipulated statistics. The case between the Established Church and the Dissenters even as to numerical preponderance remains exactly the same, though great numbers of working men take advantage of a fine Sunday to give themselves and their families a holiday, and though not a few educated laymen allow what two hundred years ago would have been thought a scandalously trivial reason to tempt them into staying at home with a book.

"What is meant by an investigation of the forms of religious belief prevailing among different sections of the community? Is it an inquiry into the nature of certain deep religious convictions? Is it neither more nor less than a question addressed to each grown-up man or woman, as to what church or religious body is able (to employ a metaphor singularly widely spread over the whole world) to show 'the Way'? Is it sought to find out what creed every man thinks to be absolutely true, what belief and what practice will produce everlasting salvation or perdition? If so, no test can be more insufficient than that selected by the Dissenters. The forefathers of both Churchmen and Dissenters were a great deal more rational than this. The Churchmen of two centuries ago took—not attendance at church, but—participation in the sacrament as the touchstone of Church membership; and the Nonconformists left the Church rather than submit, not because they regarded the criterion as ill-chosen, but because they regarded it as too conclusive and as pledging them to too strict an allegiance to a Church whose ceremonies, formularies, and creeds were in great part not to their taste. In point of fact, if a man's relation to a particular Church is to be judged of by an outward and visible sign, the more obtrusive it is, and the more deeply stamped, the better for the purpose. But, if the statistician cannot venture on this, then his proper course is not to take a doubtful and disputed symbol of spiritual allegiance, but to avail himself of the only reasonably certain way of communicating with a man's mind, and to ask him plainly to what Church he belongs. But this is what the Dissenters have prevented from being done. They pretend that his answer will be not only very unsatisfactory to themselves, but unsatisfactory in itself. They allege that it will not tell us which Church he sincerely believes to be best entitled to point out the way to salvation. No doubt this is to some extent true; but the cause lies not in the insufficiency of the process (which is in reality the only one possible) so much as in the character of the religious belief prevailing in our day. It has such infinite varieties and shades that the question, in the sense in which Dissenters declare to be the only sense admissible, is a downright impertinence. No doubt very many men will nowadays refuse to answer what is the Church which they believe will take them straight to heaven if they accept every iota of its creeds and follow every item of its practices. But they are well able to say what Church corresponds most to their ideal of a religious organisation—what Church is most in harmony with public order and decency—what is the Church whose maintenance or whose establishment is most for the advantage of society. There is, at the best, the grossest ignorance of the true problem in refusing to let a man say what is the religious body to which he belongs on grounds such as we have stated above. But in reality there is something worse than ignorant. There is something very like fraudulence in pretending to wish to ascertain the relative numbers of sects, and then in shirking the only possible test, while a test is selected which is sure to give the advantage to the zealots who are conducting the inquiry.

"For what are the modern Protestant Dissenters? First as to their pedigree. They are all descended (even, for all practial purposes, the modern Wesleyans) from the Puritan party in the yet unbroken Church of England. They have inherited from their forefathers the strongest Sabbatarianism and the strongest belief in the importance of going to a 'place of worship' on Sunday. These opinions are at this day nearly the only religious opinions which they hold in common. In some of them, going to chapel on the Sabbath may be said to constitute the whole of the Law and the Prophets. They educate feebly. They contribute little or nothing to modern theology or to modern theological criticism. But they do go to chapel; and they are ready to go to chapel on a particular Sunday with all their families, down to the youngest child capable of being counted, for the purpose of doing the Church an injury. Hence the principle which has been followed in the recent enumeration is very much like the principle which might be supposed to be followed by the clergy of the Church of England if they proposed comparative skill in organ-music as the criterion of the relative importance of sects in England. There is an admission to be made about this proceeding which will at once show its gross unfairness in this country. It would be perfectly fair in Scotland. There, with rare exceptions, everybody goes to one kirk or another. Public feeling, even more than religious conviction, forces church-attendance on the entire community. The system of enumeration followed by the English Dissenters would therefore give a close approximation to the true numerical balance between the Scottish sects. But the system is inapplicable in England to the exact extent to which the ecclesiastical and religious condition of England differs from the ecclesiastical and religious condition of Scotland. We have ourselves recently shown that we do not deny importance to the virtual desertion of a limited group of churches; but the plan of counting attendances throughout the whole country, or in the great centres of population, is ineffectual and uninstructive; and, as a substitute for State inquiry, it is childish."

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

Our correspondent, the Rev. J. E. Rudd, of Covenham-St.-Mary, writes:—"The present mildness of the season is entirely owing to the prevalence of the south-west wind. It is not favourable to the general health of the population. Looking over the wreck register of 1880, with reference to the force and direction of the wind, I find the register only gives the winds in 679 out of the 2519 cases of the year. Dealing with 679 only, the winds that have been most fatal to shipping on and near the coasts of the United Kingdom during the year were as follow:—N. to E. inclusive, 107; E. by S. inclusive, 138; S. by W. to W. inclusive, 310; and W. by N. to N. by W. inclusive, 124; total, 679. Judging from these details the S.W. has been the most fatal. The S.W. wind has anything but a good character. In Venetia, they say—'Garbin, garbin, bardassa, quelo che l' trova el lassa'—*i.e.*, that rascal Garbin (the south-west wind), as he finds us he leaves us. A south-west wind blowing on the Onega, they say, is as bad as a highwayman. Shakespeare in the *Tempest*, Act 1, Scene 2, says—

> A south-west blow on ye,
> And blister ye all over.

The southern wind is hot and moist. Southern winds corrupt and destroy: they heat and make men fall into sickness."

Mr. J. E. Hodgson, R.A., has been elected evening librarian of the Royal Academy.

Mr. Gladstone has consented to preside at the National Welsh Eistoddfod gathering to be held in August next at Denbigh if his official duties will permit.

In the *Classified Directory to the Metropolitan Charities for* 1882, published by Messrs. Longmans, Mr. W. F. Howe gives the following table of the income of the metropolitan charities for the year 1880-1:—

4	Bible societies	£206,518	0	0			
13	Book and tract societies	79,750	0	0	£286,268	0	0
56	Home Mission	406,651	0	0			
11	Home and foreign Missions	123,537	0	0			
23	Foreign Missions	779,656	0	0	£1,375,844	0	0
6	Church and chapel building funds				20,583	0	0
23	Charities for the blind	52,894	0	0			
8	Charities for deaf and dumb	16,529	0	0			
7	Charities for incurables	33,221	0	0			
6	Charities for idiots	53,649	0	0	156,293	0	0
17	General hospitals	239,111	0	0			
8	Consumption hospitals	54,953	0	0			
5	Ophthalmic hospitals	9,184	0	0			
3	Orthopædic hospitals	7,475	0	0			
4	Skin hospitals	4,036	0	0			
18	Hospitals for Women and Children	64,275	0	0			
5	Lying-in hospitals	7,004	0	0			
22	Miscellaneous special hospitals	85,059	0	0	502,647	0	0
33	General dispensaries	24,048	0	0			
14	Provident dispensaries	10,192	0	0			
2	Institutions for vaccination	2,650	0	0			
5	Institutions for surgical appliances	11,013	0	0			
37	Convalescent institutions	33,513	0	0			
14	Nursing Institutions	9,995	0	0	93,211	0	0
103	Pensions and institutions for the aged				422,806	0	0
93	Institutions for general relief	330,052	0	0			
23	Food institutions, loan charities, &c.	8,323	0	0	347,375	0	0
87	Voluntary homes				125,714	0	0
50	Orphanages, &c.				162,737	0	0
69	Institutions for reformation and prevention				73,748	0	0
105	Institutions for education				450,379	0	0
45	" social improvement				45,056	0	0
10	" protection				60,703	0	0
1,003	Total				£4,121,546	0	0

Considerable progress is being made with the arrangements for the completion and removal of "Great Paul" from Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.'s Foundry, at Loughborough, to St. Paul's, London. The weight of the bell is a little over 17½ tons, or 4½ tons heavier than "Big Ben" at Westminster. A severe and searching examination of the new bell shows that the casting is perfect in every respect. The most elaborate preparations were made for the casting, and every care was taken to secure a successful result. The case in which the mould was placed, and which had to resist the full force of the 20 tons of molten metal when finding their way into the mould, was made of cast iron, the upper portion weighing 14 tons, and the lower 7 tons. This, with the heavy clamps and bolts necessary to secure the whole together, made up the total weight of the case to 25 tons, and it is estimated that the case was able to sustain a pressure of 200 tons. The bell has an exceedingly smooth surface, and on one part there is a beautifully clear and sharp impression upon its surface of a two-shilling piece. The bell bears the arms of the Dean of St. Paul's, followed by the inscription:—"Væ mihi si non evangelisavero." In the course of a few days, the drilling and the additions for the hanging of the bell will be proceeded with. It is not yet definitely decided on what kind of vehicle "Great Paul" shall be conveyed to London, and the importance of the decision renders it necessary that the greatest care and forethought should be exercised so as to prevent the possibility of any mishap. The perpendicular height of the bell from the lip to the top of the canons is 8ft. 10in., so that a man could stand underneath it under an open umbrella. The diameter from edge to edge is 9ft. 6¾in., and the thickness at the middle of the sound-bow 8¾in. The total cost will be about £3,000. At present "Great Paul" lies mouth upwards at Messrs. Taylor's foundry, and suspended from a beam is a large cannon ball, which is swung backwards and forwards against the sound-bow to test the tone of the bell. When this is done the volume of sound is extraordinarily great, and the vibration is very remarkable.

A paper "On the Rates of Fatal Accidents in Various Occupations" was read on Monday night at a meeting of the Institute of Actuaries, in King's College, Strand, by Mr. W. J. H. Whittall, of the Clerical, Medical, and General Life Assurance Society. The rapid growth of accident assurance, the passing of the Employers' Liability Act, and the periodically recurring discussions respecting schemes for a National Accident Fund, Mr. Whittall remarked, had created a demand for statistics on the subject of accidents which could not be said to have been satisfied. The tables given in his paper were, he believed, unique as regarded this country. They were based upon a comparison of the male population in each occupation in England and Wales, as enumerated in the census of 1871, with the average of the number of violent deaths occurring to male persons following that occupation in England and Wales during the three years 1870, 1871, and 1872. For the extraction of the particulars relating to these deaths from the records of the General Register Office, special permission was obtained from Dr. Farr. Accidents to persons under ten years of age had been excluded, and to make the investigation complete, the whole of the deaths were next classified with respect to age, the influence of age on accidents being among the subjects noted. The total number of deaths classified was 25,455. The first table gave results in 157 occupations, where neither the nature of the occupation nor the results themselves suggested any disturbing influence. Taking them in order of comparative immunity from fatal accidents, the list was headed by authors, &c.; students; total accidents in the three years under investigation, 23; population in 1871, 61,085; average annual rate of fatal accidents per 10,000, 1·3. The figures in the same arrangement of number of accidents, population, and ratio for some other occupations were:—Protestant minister, 5, 9,264, 1·8; schoolmaster, 15, 19,378, 2·6; clergymen, 17, 20,694, 2·7; medical student—assistant, 4, 4,514, 3·0; printer, 49, 44,066, 3·7; teacher, professor, lecturer, 15, 13,349, 3·7; domestic servant (general), 80, 68,335, 3·9; tailor, 143, 111,843, 4·3; shoe and boot maker, 257, 197,465, 4·3; barrister, 5, 3,580, 4·7; merchant, 23, 15,903, 4·8; commercial traveller, 26, 17,895, 4·8; civil engineer, 8, 5,234, 5·1; Civil Service, 37, 23,717, 5·2; butcher, 116, 72,675, 5·3; commercial clerk, 199, 124,787, 5·3; solicitor, 20, 12,314, 5·4; police, 47, 28,330, 5·5; horsekeeper, groom, jockey, 109, 63,878, 5·7; coach, omnibus, cabowner, livery stable keeper, 10, 5,558, 6·0; painter (artist), 9, 5,005 6·0; undertaker, 3, 1,459, 6·9; actor, 4 (all in 1870), 1,899, 7·0; farrier, veterinary surgeon, 14, 6,650, 7·0; physician-surgeon, 41, 14,684, 9·3; coachman, cabman, flyman, 183, 56,171, 10·9; plumber, painter, glazier, 356, 103,380, 11·5; horse proprietor, dealer, 6, 1,364, 14·7; pilot, 25, 3,039, 27·4; bargeman, lighterman, waterman, 354, 29,445, 40·1; and highest, horse breaker, 18, 1,253, 47·9. He then dealt with more obviously dangerous occupations, treating at length of the statistics of accidents affecting railway *employés* and miners, which have been the subject of special returns and reports. Table 5 distinguished for 43 occupations, as far as was possible, accidents in connection with occupation from those which occurred outside the occupation. In the case of coal miners 2,968 out of the total of 3,464 fatal accidents in 1870-2, or 85·7 per cent., occurred in connection with the occupation. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Bailey, the president of the Institute, asked if the ratio of non-fatal accidents could be ascertained. Mr. Cornelius Walford said he thought that at present this could not be determined. Remarking on the number of accidents to those having to do with horses, he observed that more persons were killed by horses than railway accidents. From long experience of accidents from the actuary's point of view, he next offered some words of warning with regard to the principles on which Employers' Liability Companies and some accident insurance companies were conducting their business. In the accidental insurance business cycles of disaster occurred with as much regularity as panics in the commercial world; and, what was more remarkable, these cycles of accidents affected different districts in turns. Mr. Neison entered at some length into an analysis of Mr. Whittall's paper, comparing its results, especially with regard to railway *employés* and miners, with statistics obtained from other sources. Mr. Alder said, with regard to the ratio of non-fatal to fatal accidents, that investigations at Chemnitz, showed that for 91 deaths there were 213 total disablements, 369 partial disablements, and 8,177 accidents of a lighter character, or, roughly, about 100 accidents to one death.

A correspondent of the *Nonconformist* recently sent to that paper a number of extracts from the *Life of Bishop Bonner*, written during the Tractarian controversy, and attributed to Cardinal Newman, then a member of the Anglican Church, justifying in coarse terms religious persecution, and any means of "unprotestantising the Church of England." The Cardinal's attention having been called to the subject, he sent the following reply:—"Sir,—You will be glad to know that I have nothing whatever to do with the *Life of Bishop Bonner* or its dedication, that I never read the book, and that I do not know who wrote it. From the specimens which your correspondent gives of it, I believe it to be a ponderous and stupid squib against Tractarians, embodying in its composition several sentences and phrases, apart from their context, from various of their works, such as 'unprotestantising the Church of England'—sentences and phrases which they certainly did adopt, and which they never have been ashamed of. However, about the origin, author, and composition of the book I know nothing and care nothing; only I am sure that no one who knows me or my writings ever so little will impute to me such vulgar stuff.—I am, your faithful servant,—JOHN H. CARD. NEWMAN.—*Birmingham, Jan.* 2, 1882."

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LONDON, JANUARY 7.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

There is no longer any prospect of the conclusion of a new Commercial Treaty with France. The negotiations are practically at an end. After February 8 English goods entering France will be subjected to the operation of the General Tariff—will, that is, in many cases be practically excluded. Another great market of the world will be in effect closed to English trade and industry. It will be some time before the English working classes realise all that is involved in the diminution of our trade with France. The loss of our French customers will soon be perceived in the various manufactures that will be chiefly affected. And it is tolerably certain that the result will be a fresh impulse to the cry for retaliation in the shape of increased duties on French wines, French silks, and French articles of luxury. It is quite certain that no Treaty is better than a Treaty which would not only have shackled English industry, but would have deprived England of the full control of its future fiscal and financial policy. As it is, Mr. GLADSTONE has the opportunity of justifying the claims that his partisans put forth and proving his mastery of financial politics. It ought not to be very difficult to bring home to the French people all that they lose by their adoption of a Protectionist policy. An English export duty on coal would probably teach some excellent lessons.

The landlords of Ireland, threatened in many cases with a total loss of income, in the majority of cases finding themselves confronted with the confiscation of a quarter of their property, have at last taken united action in self-defence. It is somewhat late. When the Irish Land Bill was introduced into the House of Commons, and when all clear-sighted politicians saw what it was desired to accomplish and foretold what its working would be, clearly then the Irish landlords should have taken vigorous action to protect the rights of which they were about to be deprived. But they were strangely quiescent. So far from there being any energetic opposition on their part, it was their dull acquiescence in the fate in store for them that took the heart out of the opposition of the English Conservatives to the Bill. Irish landlords were plunged in contented optimism, and did not realise apparently that the Bill would practically affect them. Great landowners carrying weight and influence in Conservative councils were found asserting "it will really "make no difference." They have been quickly aroused from their Fool's Paradise. There was no difficulty in showing, as was shown by the various speakers at the meeting, that the Land Bill is perpetrating outrageous injustice, and is involving a whole class in ruin. But the prospect of remedying the injustice and averting the ruin does not seem at present very favourable. Something more than an improved administration of the Bill is required to remedy the evils that it entails. The abandonment of the policy that the Bill embodies is required. Sooner or later, in the interests of the Irish people, if not in the interests of the Irish landlords, that policy must be reversed.

The members for Birmingham have been delivering themselves of a series of addresses to their constituents, and defending their discharge as Cabinet Ministers of the mandate which they profess to hold from English Radicalism. Their task was delicate and difficult, and they acquitted themselves of it with an unblushing audacity that was not ineffective. Mr. BRIGHT a year ago had vehemently denounced a policy of coercion in Ireland and declared that force was no remedy. And now he had to defend the conduct of the Government that had resorted to measures of severe coercion, and to explain that after all force was the only remedy. The speech was an excellent one, but it ought to have been delivered a year ago. All that he says of the condition of anarchy in which Ireland is sunk was as true then as it is now, and all that he says of the aims of the leaders of the agitation was as well known then as now. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN flounders about in a vain attempt to show that there is some justification for coercion now which did not exist twelve months ago. There is none beyond the fact that the agitation has served its purpose of enabling Mr. GLADSTONE to pass his Land Bill, and that its leaders have made themselves inconvenient to the Government. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's prevarications and quibbles are remarkable for the display of vulgar impudence that is the most notable characteristic of the PRESIDENT of the BOARD of TRADE. The assertion that the objects of the

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Land League were at any time legal is contrary to facts; they have always been the same, as the evidence of Mr. FORSTER can be adduced to prove. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's objections to the methods by which these objects were promoted must have been of a purely theoretic kind, since he was not impelled to agree to measures for the prevention of murder and outrage. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN protests that he will be no party to further measures of coercion. Why does he consider it desirable that the condition of anarchy shall continue? It is quite clear that neither the remedies nor the force that the Government has thus far resorted to have been of any avail.

It was doubtless far more pleasant for Mr. J. BRIGHT and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, in meeting their constituents at Birmingham, to look forward to the future of the Radical Government than to dwell on the past. To find apologies for the disasters and failures of the Ministry is neither an easy nor an agreeable task even to adepts in the arts of prevarication and misrepresentation, and it must have been with a feeling of relief that the members for Birmingham proceeded to dilate on all that is to be achieved in forthcoming Sessions for the advancement of Radical principles and the glorification of the Radical cause. Mr. BRIGHT is once more looking forward to a Reform Bill. Another extension of the franchise, and a redistribution of seats, are measures that the Government is to give the country at the first opportunity. Possibly the opportunity may never come. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is most of all anxious that there shall be an end of obstruction in the House of Commons. If the *clôture* is only introduced, if the House of Commons is deprived of the liberty of debate, if a majority can at any time stop inconvenient discussion, then Mr. CHAMBERLAIN fondly hopes that he will be able to pass some of a number of little Bills that he has conscientiously elaborated and that are to establish his eternal fame as a legislator. It is possible, however, that it is not only to pass Bankruptcy Bills and Patent Bills that the proposal is made to muzzle the House of Commons. The sabre is not to be sharpened merely to cut bread and butter. Obstruction is the plea; the aim held in view is the possession of facilities for the establishment of the present political preponderance of Radicalism on a permanent basis. It is too much to ask the Conservative party to lend itself to the accomplishment of this task. Many will hold that the more thorough discussion of measures of legislation rather than their more rapid consideration is desirable. Nothing would have been lost if the Irish Land Bill had been debated with more deliberation and completeness. Adequate discussion is the only remedy for the "inadvertent legislation" of which we have heard too much lately.

The Egyptian Question appears to be in some mysterious fashion once more exercising the statesmanship and diplomacy of Europe. It is boldly asserted that the French Government has proposed, and that the English Government has had under consideration, a scheme for a joint military intervention in Egypt in case further troubles break out or in case the intrigues of the Sublime Porte for the development of Turkish influence on the banks of the Nile lead to fresh complications. The statement that has been put forth on apparently good authority has been authoritatively denied. The value of official denials is not, however, considerable. It seems probable that M. GAMBETTA has really conceived some project of the kind. It is impossible, however, to believe that any English Government would lend itself to a similar policy of rash adventure. The history of the occupation of Schleswig-Holstein does not encourage any scheme of joint military intervention. French and English interests are notoriously conflicting in Egypt, and the slender bond of union that exists is not fit to bear any strain. Any action of the kind, too, would be resisted by Austria and Italy, Germany and Russia, and naturally by Turkey. The position in Egypt is doubtless one full of menace for the future, but M. GAMBETTA's policy would probably only precipitate the dangers that are patent to all The Administration of Lord BEACONSFIELD was overwhelmed with contumely for the adventurous spirit that it was accused of displaying in foreign politics. To many it will seem that its real fault was its want of enterprise and its excessive prudence. At one time, at the outset of the Eastern War, Egypt might have passed under English supremacy with the tacit consent of Europe. Of course there were objections to a similar development of the "forward" policy, and the objections were allowed to prevail. The opportunity was lost. Instead of the quiet control of Egypt, England is committed to joint action with France, in which there is far more of rivalry than of partnership, and is confronted with perpetual assertions of the influence which the other Great Powers claim to exert on the banks of the Nile. And for this Cyprus is scarcely a compensation.

IRISH POLICY.

The English people has had the advantage during the past week of having placed before it the opposite views of the Irish Question. Mr. BRIGHT and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN have discoursed upon the subject, and developed the theories upon which recent legislation has proceeded. The Irish landlords, smarting under the sense of intolerable injustice, have given their practical experience of, and uttered their indignant protest against, the working of the Irish Land Act. It must be confessed that neither party contributed in any degree to the solution of the problem of the day, and from neither side will the English people derive any plausible hope that a speedy termination to the Irish difficulty is possible. The Irish landlords are in course of being ruined. But it does not appear as if their ruin will do anything except add to the social and political evils under which Ireland labours. The Irish peasantry is about to obtain practical possession of the soil. But it does not seem as if there were any nearer approach to the pacification of Ireland.

The Irish landlords, it must be confessed, are, like the conies, but a feeble folk. Whilst the Irish Land Act was under discussion no united protest against an Act that meant nothing unless it meant their spoliation and the plunder of their property was made. Tacitly they acquiesced in the measure. Now that they find that its effect is to deprive them of one quarter of what, by every legal right and moral sanction, belongs to them, they protest not against the law itself but its administration. If anything is certain it is that if the law is to be maintained and is to carry out the views of its supporters it must be administered as it thus far has been. Its one recommendation to the Irish people consists in the fact that it reduces rents. The one hope of the Government that is responsible for the measure is that the reduction of the rents will suffice to destroy the influence of the revolutionary agitation. If the Irish landlords wish to escape the fate with which they are threatened, their only resource is to agitate for the repeal of an iniquitous measure. But from any suggestion for the repeal or even the modification of the law the Irish landlords have scrupulously refrained. To them there is something apparently sacrosanct in a Bill introduced by a Radical Government and passed by the Radical majority that happens at present to exist in the House of Commons. It is not permissible even to discuss the propriety of altering a measure passed under false pretences—pretences, however, so obviously false that only Irish landlords could have been deceived by them. When Mr. GLADSTONE said that to "propose principles of confiscation would be a disgrace to a "Ministry of justice," and when Mr. BRIGHT declared that under the Bill "the rents in "Ireland, for the most part, in nine cases out of "ten, would be fixed very much as they "are now," all shrewd politicians know that they were saying what they neither believed nor desired. The law is operating as it was easy to foretell it would operate. As long as it is in existence it will continue to operate in the same fashion or it will forfeit its one *raison d'être*. Protests against the administration of the law are natural, but they show a singular ignorance of practical politics, and an equally singular ignorance of practical politics is shown in the demand of the Irish landlords for compensation. If this demand had been raised last Session, and if—as was strongly urged in these columns—provisions for compensation had been inserted in the Bill, a strong obstacle would have been raised to the wholesale reduction of rents that is being carried. Whether they are provided or not with secret instructions from the Government, it is quite certain that the assistant Commissioners would have refrained from what would then have been the direct plunder of the Imperial Exchequer. The demand for compensation comes too late. As Mr. CHAMBERLAIN with his brutal cynicism points out, there is no probability that the English taxpayers will consent to pay one hundred millions to the Irish people. A Radical Ministry might find it possible to be just and honest if only a small sum were at stake. But its honesty has pecuniary limits. If it were a case of payment for loss of property in one's "own flesh and blood," Mr. GLADSTONE might discover in his family history excellent reasons for making full compensation. But Irish landowners must not expect to be treated with the consideration given to slavemasters.

Though the Irish landlords are being ruined the Irish people are not being pacified. The state of Ireland remains one of lawlessness and anarchy. Mr. BRIGHT now delivers an elaborate argument in favour of coercion, and proves, it is to be hoped to his own satisfaction and the satisfaction of his friends, for no one else required to be convinced, that for the evils under which Ireland labours, force is the only remedy. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, however, still professes to believe in the marvels that will be achieved by the famous remedial legislation. The reasons of his belief are not stated. To ordinary observers it would appear as if the direct result of the Land Act is to aggravate all the disastrous conditions under which Ireland labours. The most bitter opponents of the Irish Land Bill would not have been surprised if the immediate result of the vast bribe given to the Irish peasantry had been for the time to check the spread of the revolutionary agitation, but not even a temporary conciliation of lawlessness has been achieved. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN now professes to expect much from the ultimate results of the Act. The ultimate results will be, by the action of the provisions for free sale, that the future occupiers of land will pay the utmost rack-rentals that the unlimited competition for land can raise. If the Irish tenants are not conciliated by the immediate boon they receive, they are not likely to be placated when the future finds them condemned to the grinding toil and poverty which is ingeniously reserved for them under the provisions of the present Act. The Irish policy of Mr. GLADSTONE is not only a crime, but a blunder. If the Irish landlords hesitate, certainly the English people will not shrink from demanding its reversal.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

The issue of this Commission at the instance of the PRIMATE of ALL ENGLAND was a welcome relief to the growing anxieties of non-litigant Churchmen in the crisis brought about by the disastrous legislation of 1874. Not a few of the moderate and best informed of the clergy warned HIS GRACE at the time that "Ritualism" was not to be "stamped out" by a Statute of pains and penalties. Still less by a Statute which, under pretence of enforcing the laws of the Church, was avowedly directed to "putting down" the resistance provoked by the novel and conflicting interpretations of the Judicial Committee. If it would be "madness (as the Bishop of PETERBOROUGH said) to "enforce the Rubrics all round," it was something worse to enforce a judicial *clôture* of questions left open ever since the Reformation. It is true that the Ornaments Rubric has of late been advanced to a prominence in actual ritual previously unknown, and has been further said to symbolise a doctrine which we hold to be foreign to the spirit and letter of the Anglican Liturgy. But it is beyond question that the Ritualist construction of the Rubric has the sanction of commentators of authority from Cosin to Whately; and was never judicially condemned till the *Purchas* Judgment. Nay, it was positively sanctioned by the Judicial Committee itself, seventeen years before, in the *Knightsbridge Churches* case. Their Lordships then laid down for law that the Rubrics of Elizabeth's Prayer-Book and the present Book, "obviously "mean the same thing—that the same dresses, "and the same utensils or articles which were "used under the First Prayer-Book of EDWARD "VI. may still be used." For seventeen years this judgment stood unchallenged, but no Bishop stirred a finger to enforce it, and the bulk of the clergy paid no attention to it. The advanced party, of course, made full use of their triumph, but beyond twitting us with not wearing the legal vestments they showed no desire to abridge the liberty of others.

The truce was broken, after the accession of Archbishop TAIT, by the attack on Mr. PURCHAS, and the Judicial Committee went right about face. The DEAN of ARCHES, having followed their own construction, they coolly observed that "the question of vest-"ments was not then before the Court," as if they had not themselves imported it as governed by the word Ornaments! They offered no explanation of the contradiction in saying—first, that the Rubric and Act of 1559 *obviously* meant the same thing with the Rubric of 1662; and then that they meant quite a different thing because of the word "retained," which is common to both dates! Mr. PURCHAS was actually condemned for obeying the law as delivered in the Church Court, on the authority of the Judicial Committee, because their Lordships had said what at a later time they did not wish to be thought their meaning. Yet a re-hearing was refused because the judgments of this august tribunal must be as the law of the Medes and Persians that altereth not.

This was too much for the lawyers themselves. The question was reopened in the RIDSDALE Judgment and the blundering contradictions extemporised for Mr. PURCHAS were polished up into a spick-and-span new law out of the Advertisements. This document is a hundred years older than the Rubric, and nothing is *certain* of it but that Queen ELIZABETH refused to give the Royal authority when requested by PARKER. Being afterwards issued by the Archbishop (reduced within the compass of his own authority), its directions were extensively observed in both provinces, though never formally published by the Archbishop of YORK. This, however (as was always seen), did not make them law. The Judicial Committee now *assume* that the Royal assent was given, though the evidence is lost from the burning of the Council books! On the strength of this conjecture they read a negative into the middle of the Rubric which the clergy have subscribed and are bound to obey. And after all, the Advertisements have not one word of the disputed vestments, but only of others which are not questioned by anyone!

The same astonishing incapacity was shown in the matter of the Eastward Position. Mr. MACKONOCHIE was condemned for not standing before the Table throughout the Prayer of Consecration. It was never doubted that "before "the Table" meant in front of it, with the back to the people. The only question was, whether the direction applied only to the ordering of the elements or to the Prayer of Consecration; also their Lordships decided that "they apply to the whole sentence, and "this is made more apparent by the manual "acts, which could only be done in the atti "tude of standing." In point of fact, we have seen these acts done in the attitude of *kneeling*, at the north end; but it is certain that they must be done "turning to the "Table." This decision, levelled at an extreme piece of "Ritualism," really branded the whole Evangelical party as "lawless." Anglicans who had hitherto conformed to general usage against their own construction of the Rubric, were deprived of their only excuse by the further declarations that it is not open to a minister or to the Judicial Committee itself to distinguish between important and trivial acts; that no omission and no addition can be permitted; and finally, that this particular act is expressly ordered by the Rubric, and therefore beyond the BISHOP's jurisdiction to modify or dispense with. The clergy are often censured for disputing the Bishop's interpretation; it was the Judicial Committee that passed them the word.

After all this, the same tribunal punished Mr. PURCHAS for standing before the Table, and said he was bound to stand *beside* it. They scolded the DEAN of ARCHES for taking them at their word, and said, what was doubtless true enough, that they would have expressed themselves differently if they had understood the question. They now held the Rubric to be governed by the words "before the people" (part of the sentence previously governed by "before the Table"), and these words to mean "in the *sight* of the people," of which they admitted the Rubric does not speak. They fancied these words to be meant as a concession to the Puritans, not perceiving their relation to the first Reformed Rubric, "afore "the midst of the altar," followed by another at the Consecration, "turning still to the altar "without any elevation or showing of the "Sacrament to the people." On this mere conjecture again, without a vestige of support in the Liturgy itself, and against all Catholic precedent, they ordered the priest to the north "side or end," in the teeth of Lord KEEPER WILLIAMS's irrefragable demonstration that "side" is not "end;" no one but LAUD and his followers ever said it was.

Here, again, it was soon felt that these great lawyers had gone too far; and, in the *Ridsdale* Judgment, they shuffled back to a reluctant allowance of the position, which in 1868 was so clearly ordered that neither long usage nor episcopal dispensation can avail against it, provided that "in good faith he "enables the Communicants to see." "Good "faith"—to whom or what? The article says the Sacrament was not ordained to be gazed at, but to be duly used—a statement worth the whole heap of controversial literature on which their Lordships wanted to puritanise the Rubric. They did not even see that the words "before the people" are limited to the breaking of the bread, to the pointed exclusion of the taking the cup, and the other manual acts all equally to be seen, if any. The only example we have seen of "good faith" to this absurdity was a priest,

who, standing with his back to the people, raised the bread in both hands above his head and broke it in the sight of the people! In short, to interpret a Church Rubric requires a Churchman's knowledge of the subject matter. A lawyer's interpretation of the mere words may be no better than a Bishop's interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

It is no wonder that Ritualism flamed all the higher for this alternate fanning and damping of the fire.

After all this "meddling and muddling" in Ritual, the Judicial Committee came face to face with the doctrine supposed to be symbolised, and *allowed* it, in a more extreme form than was known to any of our standard divines, or would be tolerated by any Synod of the Anglican Church. The lawyers found themselves incapable of defining the doctrine of the Eucharist, and to relieve their vexation and mollify the defeated party, indulged in a bitter scolding of the Church Judge, whose decision they confirmed, and of Mr. Bennett, who did not stoop to defend himself at their tribunal. It was in this state of things that Archbishop Tait, a schoolmaster who never had a cure of souls, nor any legal responsibility for the worship of the Church till he was made a Dean, went to Parliament for a new Bill of pains and penalties. It passed in a Protestant panic; the greatest blot on Lord Beaconsfield's Ministry and on the jurisprudence of the country. Aimed at a party while pretending to enforce the laws of the Church, it committed the enormous blunder of evacuating the spiritual jurisdiction which was the only power that could restrain their excesses. It enabled, or rather invited, them to defy Lord Penzance and his temporal penalties, with an amount of public sympathy which nothing else could have obtained for them. There has been neither the yielding before the rod which the Archbishop counted upon, nor the "sorrowful secession" so complacently predicted by others, but persistent legislation, involving successive "pitfalls," as the Archbishop terms the release of clergymen unlawfully imprisoned—riots and disturbance in congregations; hopeless embarassments to Bishops. The net result is one clergyman still in gaol, whom the Primate would be delighted to get out, and "Ritualism" practically victorious all along the line.

This melancholy and discreditable confusion is what the Royal Commission has to clear away if it can. Nothing has yet transpired of its proceedings beyond the names of some of the witnesses, which include, of course, the leaders of the opposition in the Courts. It is to be presumed that the more moderate views will be adequately represented. The non-combatants—the great Anglican body, clerical and lay—have the most right to complain. We shall not consent to be sacrificed to either wing.

Committees of the two Convocations are understood to be in conference on the subject, and it will doubtless assume a prominent place in the approaching synodical debates. Let us hope that the Convocation of York may find a way of getting Mr. Green out of Lancaster Castle, and so eliminate the personal element that embitters the general question.

The repeal of the *Public Worship Act*, or at least the restoration of the spiritual authority in the Provincial, ought to raise little question after the experience we have had of the needless alteration.

If the Judicial Committee would refrain from those elaborate arguments which are so much more offensive than the true judgments of the Court—Her Majesty's Orders in Council—it would go far to appease the disquiet. They are not required by the Statute; they never convince any but the ignorant; and, for our own part, we believe they are not law. We refuse to believe that the Sovereign is, or ever was, the Final Court of Appeal in questions of the "law Divine or of spiritual learning." These are expressly assigned to the Spiritualty in the famous Act of Appeals; and the only appeal from the Archbishop in these matters, since the suppression of the Papacy, is to Convocation. The appeal to the Sovereign is "for lack of justice in the Archbishops' Courts," enacted first in respect of causes of matrimony, tithes, and other things of a mixed character, and extended to the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction generally in defence of the person and property of the subject. It was not new at the Reformation, but is as old as the Conquest, and is in terms recited in the *Constitutions* of Clarendon. The usurpation, in fact, is mostly due to the *Church Discipline Act* of 1840; and to bring the Royal Jurisdiction back to its Constitutional relations with the Church is the great question for Convocation and the Royal Commission, by whom its suggestions will doubtless be thankfully received.

Reviews.

A QUEEN OF SOCIETY TWO CENTURIES AGO.*

Many of our readers have no doubt visited the attics of the palace at Versailles, and lingered in that gallery of portraits which is so full of the memoirs of the past and tells us in so attractive a manner the history of France during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Well, if anyone would like to realise, *far from Versailles*, the pleasant sensations he enjoyed whilst visiting the palace of the *grande monarque*, he cannot do better than take up the elegant volume we are about to review, and for which we are indebted to the expert editorship of M. Edouard de Barthélemy.

Memoirs, such as those of Saint-Simon, have that advantage over set histories that they give us, so to say, the *dessous des cartes*, and show us what we must really think of the heroes and heroines who strut about on the world's stage the brief space allotted to them. Study, for instance, M. de Lacretelli's *Histoire de France au Seizième Siècle*, and although you may have, and do have, in fact, a faithful portraiture of the Court of the Louvre under the Valois dynasty, yet you are not startled by the disclosures you find in Brantôme, the graphic pictures given by *la Reine Margot*, and the gossiping anecdotes which fill Pierre de L'Estoile's *registres-journaux*.

If memoirs have an advantage denied to *ex-professo* histories, correspondences and collections of letters possess, in their turn, merits quite peculiar to themselves, and which assign to them the very foremost place amongst independent sources of information. As M. de Barthélemy remarks in the preface to his volume:—

> A person always attitudinises more or less when he relates the circumstances of his life, whereas he follows his own real impressions whilst he writes letters not meant for publicity. Many people have fortunately preserved their correspondences with great care; and, thanks to these documents, we are able to become acquainted with many homes, and bring to the light many individuals who, but for that circumstance, would have remained entirely unnoticed. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the talent for spelling does not seem to have been very general; but, on the other hand, the art of letter-writing was decidedly superior to what it is now; letters were long and full of minute details—in the first place, because our forefathers did not live as we do in such feverish excitement; and, in the next, because the want of gazettes and newspapers rendered Town and Court gossip a matter of necessity.

Let us now come to the person who forms, so to say, the centre of M. de Barthélemy's volume, and whose large circle of friends kept both her pen busy and her curiosity on the alert. Mademoiselle Marie de Basileul, daughter of a magistrate supposed to descend from the Scotch *Baliols*, had married, February 28, 1644, at the age of eighteen, François de Brichanteau, Marquis de Drangis; six months afterwards she was a widow, her husband having been shot at the siege of Gravelines. At the end of the year she married the Marquis d'Huxelles. It is always painful to say of a lady that her behaviour is not what it ought to be, but the truth must be told, and Mdme. d'Huxelles, to put things in their milder form, was a downright flirt; "*on a terriblement parlé d'elle*," says the chatty Tallemard des Réaux, and such an expression, from the amusing author of the *historiettes*, means a great deal. Like Mdme. de Longueville, Mdme. de La Vallière, and so many feminine celebrities of those days, the Marquise d'Huxelles ended in a very pious manner a life which had certainly created at first much scandal; she was eighty-five years old when she died in Paris, April 29, 1712.

From the correspondence of Mdme. de Sévigné, we have already heard Mdme. d'Huxelles was celebrated for her wit, her taste, and her conversational powers; she presided over one of the most brilliant *salons*, and had the talent of assembling at her fireside persons belonging to almost every opinion and to every class of fashionable society. This, we say, was known to us; but before M. de Barthélemy enjoyed the good fortune of access to the documents he now publishes, the reputation of Mdme. d'Huxelles had only reached us incidentally. At present, we are admitted, so to speak, to the circle of the fair Marquise's friends, and we meet those many persons whose portraits adorn the galleries at Versailles. M. de Caillorès, M. de La Garde, Mdme. de Berniers, the Duc de Villeroy, the Abbé de Rance, M. de Coulange, and a host of others appear in the list of her acquaintances, and have contributed to this volume letters of much real interest. The disputes between the Jansenists and the Jesuits were at their height at the time, and it is curious to watch the progress of the struggle in the correspondence of Percois de Montgaillard, Bishop of Saint Pons. Another original figure belonging in this gallery is Tréville or Troisville, the religious *dilettante*, the champion of Port Royal, "real high-priest," says M. de Barthélemy, "of a small worldly church where "his most insignificant utterances were eagerly "received, commented on, and approved. He had "become the doctor *par excellence* of grace and "of quietism, the infallible oracle consulted on "all obscure and difficult questions. He wrote "for the benefit of his admirers small treatises, "which he very honestly considered as above the "comprehension of ordinary mortals, and profitable only to the initiated."

We may observe, by the bye, that the religious sympathies of Mdme. d'Huxelles were chiefly on the Jansenist side, and that she did not hesitate to take loudly the defence of the persecuted minority; she belonged in fact to the generation of independent spirits who, under the despotism of Louis XIV., had retained a great share of the *Frondeur* spirit, and, like Mdme. de Sévigné, Mdme. du Plessis-Billière, and Mdme. d'Assirac, she believed sincerely in the innocence of the notorious Fouquet. From what we have thus said it will be evident that there is scarcely a feature in France seventeenth-century society which is not amply illustrated in the volume we are reviewing; and the excellent biographical sketches and notes given by M. de Barthélemy form the most valuable comment on the letters he has been allowed to transcribe and to publish. We are happy to learn that a further instalment is likely to appear; and we feel quite sure that it will be received with the same favour by historical students as also by the still larger class of readers who feel an interest in the pictures of social life during the two last centuries. Let us take the opportunity of suggesting to M. de Barthélemy the advantage of a good alphabetical index as the proper supplement to a volume so crowded with facts and proper names.

* *La Marquise de Huxelles et ses Amis.* Par Edouard de Barthélemy. 8vo.—Paris: Didot.

A FIRST-RATE NOVEL.*

Beggar My Neighbour is one of the best novels which we have met with for some time. It is full of interest from beginning to end, the characters are well drawn, the incidents well put together, and the local colouring has the advantage of novelty as well as of picturesqueness. The scene is laid in Poland; and though we cannot profess to be able to judge of the correctness of the descriptions, they are certainly very graphic, so that we seem able to realise them in an unusual degree. By thus bringing us into contact with an unfamiliar aspect of European life the author has added much to the effect of the book; and the impression which *Beggar My Neighbour* leaves upon the reader is likely to remain uneffaced when the majority of the contemporary works of fiction have faded from our recollection, like an unsubstantial vision, and left no rack behind. There is a considerable amount of ingenuity, sometimes rather misplaced, in the way in which the author has carried out all through the book the allegory of the title-page; for not only have we represented on the outside of it a hand of cards, but each chapter has a title connected with cards or cardplayers. Sometimes the application is rather forced; and it is indeed impossible to keep up the metaphor with strict accuracy through the whole course of the three volumes. But the novelty of the conception more than makes up for an occasional straining of the meaning of card language. A less cleverly contrived plot and less interesting characters would have gathered no small attraction from such a setting as that in which the novel before us is presented to the reader; for there is page on page of effective description both of scenery and of local manners and customs, which would have been sufficient to have floated a far less striking story.

In the introductory chapter we have brought before us three boys playing at what we may presume to be the Polish equivalent of the familiar English game which gives its title to the novel. The rest of the book follows their respective fortunes, and shows how each of them carried out faithfully the scheme of life which he put forward when their father suddenly interrupting their game came upon them and required from each an immediate choice of a profession. "A "soldier," a "do-nothing," and "a rich man;" such were the prophetic utterances which Bojumil Bieliuski, himself an incorrigible gambler, and therefore unwilling to pardon the harmless gambling of his sons, extracted from them. To Kazimir, the eldest, and certainly the most attractive, falls the lot of the soldier, and he is the hero of the novel in every sense. We must quote the passage in which the author strikes the keynote of his character, at the same time introducing us to the heroine:—

> There are some men who are repelled by the extremes of feminine helplessness, and there are some men who are attracted by it; some whom hysterical tears harden, and some whom they soften. Kazimir was of the latter sort. The more a woman seemed able to take care of herself, the less sympathy he felt for her; and the more anxious a woman was to lean upon him, the more ready he was to be leant upon. He was the very stuff of which the knights of the Middle Ages were made of; anything weak, anything in want of protection appealed straight to his honour and to his heart. Widows and orphans and ill-used people generally were the peculiar objects of his sympathy. Women who were neither widowed, orphaned, nor ill-used, appeared to a certain disadvantage before his eyes. If Xenia had not been an orphan, he might not have felt so mightily drawn towards her. Of course, as the orphan in question happened to be transcendantly beautiful, it did not detract from the effect upon him.

The heroine in question is by no means satisfactory; and were it not that the everyday experience of real life more than justifies the author, we should have been inclined to doubt if so weak, so vain, so foolish a specimen of womanhood could have exercised so powerful an influence over one in every respect so much too good for her as Kazimir. We feel that the criticism passed upon her by her cousin is not too severe, when, in answer to the lover's enthusiastic description of her as "transparent as crystal," the less prejudiced judge of her own sex replies, "She is as trans-"parent as shallow water." She it is who alters his whole fortune; and foolish flighty, and vain as she is, there is perhaps a certain amount of improbability in the exceeding rapidity of the transference of what she is pleased to call her affections from Kazimir himself to his brother Lucyan. The latter is the bad character—to adopt the author's metaphor the Knave—of the story; and having made up his mind to become a rich man, he shrinks from nothing in pursuing this end. He has a valuable coadjutor in the Polish Jew, who is perhaps the best-drawn character in the whole novel. The mixture of superstition and rascality depicted in Aitzig Majulik is most striking; and it is not only for the important part which he plays in the working out of the plot, but also as a lifelike and effective portraiture of his class, that he deserves a prominent place in any notice of this interesting novel:—

> There scarcely passed a week in which this factor was not to be seen at Wowasulka; for was he not one of that nation who are at once the slaves and the masters of Poland? Drawing gain out of the indolence of the Polish character, the Jews have, little by little, got the strings of the whole national life into their hands. They have crept into the machinery of public life, and have wound and wormed themselves in behind the very veil of privacy.
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> They cannot be kept away or pushed back; for you cannot fight with their own weapons: they do not push, they crawl. Like a network they spread over the country; a nation of detectives bound together by the bond of their religion, and by that national *esprit de corps* which will always make a Jew help a Jew, hold a Jew's secrets inviolate, if necessary conceal a Jew. They have their own secrets of success, but this last is not the least. You cannot ignore them, reptiles as they are; the best you can do is to reconcile yourself to them, and that is what every Pole does. He treats them as the scum of the earth, uses any amount of violent language towards them, and on occasion kicks them downstairs. And next time he wishes to save himself trouble he sends for his Jew, and the Jew comes with the same cringing smile, obsequious and oily-tongued, as though they had parted the best friends. Whether you wanted to buy a horse, engage a cook, sell a piano or a property, or get married in a hurry, you cannot do without a Jew; and above all if you want money you cannot do without him. He will tell you all the horses for sale for ten miles round, and what each is worth; he can give you the accurate amount of the fortunes of all the young ladies of the neighbourhood; and the ragged wretch, slipshod and out at elbows, will put at your instant disposal thousands of florins, which he presses on you with loquacious and irresistible persistence.
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> Every family of rank has its own particular factor, just as much as it has its own coachman, and Aitzig Majulik was the particular factor of the Bielinski family.
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> Aitzig Majulik was a Jew unwashed and garlic-scented. He was generally called "old Aitzig," and had always being called so, even before he became old. No one remembered his ever having been young. When he was forty, he had looked like fifty; and now that he was sixty, he looked like fifty still. Kazimir, who had not seen him for ten years, thought that Aitzig must have been standing still, instead of going on with the time. His nose had the orthodox hook, and his face was framed in the orthodox cork screw curls, one at each side. He had brows so protruding as to throw his eyes into deep shade; and he had hands long and thin and yellow, which might have made a fanciful person think of claws.
>
> His long gown had turned greenish in hue, from extreme old age; a tattered cord was round his waist; with one yellow claw he waved about his battered hat—which on entering he had removed, leaving visible a greasy black skull-cap,—with the other he gave furtive pulls to his corkscrew curls. He had not stopped talking since he entered. His hungry shining eyes wandered round the room.

With the aid of this unscrupulous agent, Lucyan succeeds in defrauding his elder and more unsuspicious brother of his share in the family property. He has, however, a certain amount of difficulty in making even the Jew carry out the nefarious schemes which he himself so easily forms, and there is a very effective passage describing how "the man who had no fear and no conscience "looked on at the agony of the man who was a "coward, and [who] had still a grain of conscience "remaining." After a time the footing on which they stood towards each other changed, and "Aitzig bent, and wriggled, and cringed, and "behaved as much as ever like a worm under "foot, but now the worm had developed a sting, "and sometimes that sting was stealthily advanced." In the end, it is the fear which the greater knave feels of the lesser which brings about the striking catastrophe, and there is a stroke of real genius on the author's part in concluding his novel with the solemn death chant of the mass of dark figures beating their breasts and uttering unearthly howls which bore to his last resting-place, through the dreary snow-drift, their brother who had passed away, and was gathered, in the impressive language of that chant, to his forefathers, even to the great patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Very striking is the scene at the Jew's deathbed, when he strives in vain to repair the mischief which he has done to the unsuspecting Hussar. But yet more striking is the chapter, not unworthy of Nathaniel Hawthorne, in which the apothecary's daughter struggles against, but at length succumbs to, the temptation to avenge upon Lucyan the wrong which she had suffered at his hand by mixing poison with his sleeping draught. This is one of the most powerful scenes in a very powerful novel; but it is not by the potion mixed by the luckless Janina that Lucyan meets his doom, though he is only saved from it by Kazimir to be hoist by his own petard and to fall a victim to the scheme which he had contrived to remove the Jew from his path. On his death, poor foolish Xenia thinks she may win back her former lover—which leads us to suppose that in Poland marriage with a deceased brother's wife is legal—but Kazimir, whose love has survived the treachery of her youth, is repelled by the flippant forwardness of her more mature years. This deterioration of one who, with a good husband, might have been a good woman, is a painful picture, but so admirably painted that we are inclined to think that it is one of the most effective parts of a most effective story. We feel that Kazimir has had a happy escape; but in making this escape he has lost the bloom and freshness of his youth. What is to be his future we are not told, and the novel closes without giving us any indication of his after life. But we think it is as well that he did not marry Xenia's plain cousin Vizia, though she had loved him so truly and faithfully from the first time that they met. He, however, did his duty by proposing to her, and she did her duty by refusing him. "Perhaps Vizia was

* *Beggar My Neighbour.* By E. D. Gerard. In Three Vols.—Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons, 1882.

"wrong," says the author; but the general verdict of the reader will be that she was right, and that, as nothing short of the most perfect love would have satisfied her, it was no mere morbid pride which stood between her and her happiness.

We have dealt only with the more important personages and the more important incidents, but the minor personages and the minor incidents are not less happily described. An exception must, perhaps, be made with regard to Marcin, the do-nothing brother, who is somewhat exaggerated; and the apothecary's daughter, to whom he plights his troth, is not so *vraisemblable* as most of the characters. But, as we have said, the scene in which she meditates her revenge would redeem a much inferior portrait. In addition to the various personages introduced, we should call attention to the descriptions of scenery and of local customs which distinguish the book from the ordinary run of novels. To these it is difficult to do justice by extracts, as they are not mere extraneous ornaments, but are well worked into the story itself. We may perhaps, however, select, not as the best but as the most easily detached from the context, the sketch of Kazimir's drive to Lodniki ostensibly to purchase a pair of horses, but really to enjoy an interview with the fair Xenia:—

All the long hours of the night before last the wind had slept, while the snow had come down softly, patching up deficient places, filling up holes, and making the whole uneven texture even. Now the peasant-sledges had cut their way through, the *sanna droga*, the sledge-road for the winter, was moulded into shape. A sledge-road with us means a welcome change from the monotony of wheels, a good excuse for some gay freak, or an easy opportunity for display. With the Poles it means something different—not an amusement, but almost a necessity. It means distances cut down to half their length—business and traffic deprived of half their trouble; an event expected with anxiety.

Kazimir, impatient for a change after two days' imprisonment, was soon out of the house and in motion, his sledge-bells tinkling with each step of the horses. It was the last time, he hoped, that he should drive with hired horses, for he felt sanguine as to his mission to-day. He was in high spirits altogether. The winter sunshine, which had broken its way at last, stared down from a pale-blue cloudless sky, pouring light-floods over the earth.

Kazimir's road led down the centre of the garden; then, as the garden on either side died off without definite limits, the road ran up the gradual but rocky slope, and plunged into the woods beyond—the great deep forest, which seemed to be everywhere, and to lead everywhere. But, before turning his horses' heads in that direction, he had a glimpse of the open country at the other side; a white world of fields and roads and hills, all spotless and untouched, stretching in snowy widespread waves to the horizon; all giving back the sun's light with blinding brightness; with silver sparks struck here and there, and diamond-dust scattered everywhere. The windows of the low house blazed as though they were on fire.

As Kazimir drove towards the forest, he could trace footsteps of some animal, coming from between the trees, crossing and re-crossing over the flower-beds. Hungry foxes, no doubt, driven to dig for roots.

In the forest it was lonely, and on a dull day would be dark; but to-day the silver sunshine peered through the branches, and the blue sky showed between the tree-tops. The green leaves, which in summer so jealously curtained the entrance to the forest sanctuaries, were lying dead and buried under the snow; and at either side the eye could plunge into a vista of retreating stems. Every branch and bush were laden with snow; every tree-hollow was filled to overflowing; every tiny twig which could hold a snowflake had its load. The thorny arches of wild-rose bushes, which in summer flowered pink, now nodded under white burdens. There were more tracks of animals here, passing in and out between the trees, but there was no life, except when at times a solitary bird, startled by the approach of the sledge, darted from its perch, while the recoiling twig, with a spring upwards, shook itself free of the clinging flakes. Neither was there any sound in the wood, but an occasional fall of snow, as some overladen branch discharged its burden on the white carpet below.

It was all a new experience to Kazimir. He had been so long away from his country, that he had grown almost to forget the delights of this gliding magical swiftness with which they were flying along close to the hard surface. The frost was keen; the breath of the tramping horses curled away like smoke into the sharp air. Kazimir, muffled up to his ears, and buried down to his toes in fur, heartily pitied the poor driver, whose ears from pink had become red, and from red were fast turning purple. Leaning back in luxurious enjoyment of the motion, he drank in intoxicating draughts of the pure winter air, and feasted his eyes on the sparkles which hung on every branch, and which flew away in shivers from under the horses' hoofs.

We doubt much whether, in the course of the new year on which we have just entered, we have reason to anticipate the production of any work of fiction better worth reading than this, in which the author has not merely sustained but enhanced the high reputation won by *Reata*.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

The *Cornhill* for the new year does not commence any new novels, but gives us a further instalment of "Love the Debt," and the concluding instalment of "A Grape from a Thorn." We have already noticed the last-named excellent novel in its completed shape, and the only further comment we have to make is that it seems a pity that it should have been allowed to run over into a new volume, instead of being brought to an end with the end of the year. "Love the Debt" is not so great a favourite of ours, though it contains a good deal which is humorous and also interesting. There is nothing so striking in the present number as the ingeniously worked-up combination of circumstances lately described which gave so good a ground for the unprecedented accusation brought against the hero of having murdered and robbed himself. We are this month brought to more peaceful scenes, and Lawley and Mabel go abroad under the chaperonage of Lady Saddlethwaite, who, with a true woman's propensity for match-making, hopes thus to bring them together. But Mabel's grief for her supposed dead lover is not so easily assuaged; and it is with a shock of surprise that she receives the revelation of Lawley's love, made under very exceptional circumstances. Nothing but these exceptional circumstances could have induced him to speak, but the prospect of the immediate drowning both of himself and the lady of his affections, looses his tongue. The scene is well described, but the author is yet more successful in the humorous than in the serious interest of the story. There is a stroke of genuine fun in the regretful remorse expressed by young Lord Charlecote, when, thoroughly worn out by sight-seeing at Rome, he exclaims, "I have a lot of old "masters and that sort of thing at home, and the "public are admitted to go there on certain days; "but when I get back I'll put a stop to it. I "never thought it was like this." In addition to the serials, the present number of the *Cornhill* contains two clever and amusing stories, called "The Man with the Red Hair,"—bearing the well-known initials W. E. N.,—and "A Bit of Loot." The supply of graver matter—we will not do it the injustice to call it padding—comprises a paper on the "Colours of Flowers," by a writer to whom we are already indebted for some attractive contributions of the same character, and one on the "Boke of St. Albau's" which discourses pleasantly enough about Lady Julia Berners and her volume which has been recently reproduced by Mr. Elliot Stock. Then "A. L."—are we wrong in supposing it to be Mr. Lang?—gives us an interesting paper on how the stars got their names, in which he advances some grave objections to the philological explanation of Mr. Max Müller, which only professes to account for the Aryan myths; and last, but not least, Mr. J. A. Symonds contributes one of his delightful sketches of Italian life, and paints for us, as he alone could do, "A "Gondolier's Wedding."

Were it not that Dr. MacDonald combines in so remarkable a manner the functions alike of the preacher and the novelist, we should be somewhat astonished to find a professed work of fiction, by a professed writer of fiction, in a periodical so specially suited for Sunday reading as the *Sunday Magazine*. But there is considerable fitness in the reappearance, in the pages of that periodical, of a writer who won his spurs by the "Annals of a Quiet Neighbourhood," which were first issued in it. So also it is not unfitting that the first of the series of portraits of "Our Prin-"cipal Contributors," which is one of the attractions of the new issue of the magazine, should present to us the striking features of Dr. MacDonald himself. Of his new story "Weighed and "Wanting," we are hardly yet in a position to form an opinion, but it is certain that the pulpit element will not be wanting to it. At the same time there are touches of genuine humour in it, which are rare among the novelists of the day, and many who would not be otherwise disposed to listen to the lessons which it contains will be drawn to them by the framework in which they are presented. We need hardly say that we cannot subscribe unreservedly to the Doctor's theological views, but even when we most differ from him there is something attractive in the fiery zeal and earnestness with which they are enforced. The other new serial, a New England story, by Miss Burch, entitled "Justice Warren's "Daughter," promises well; but among the other contents of the January number, perhaps the most attractive are the Rev. J. G. Wood's contribution to national history, "Homes under the Sea," and Mr. Manders's paper on "The Red Planet, "Mars."

Good Words which, like the *Sunday Magazine*, is published by Messrs. Isbister and Co., begins the new year with a very attractive bill of fare. The paper in it which stands first, and, independent of its actual position, would be likely first to demand the attention of the reader, is the very sympathetic and deeply interesting notice of Dean Stanley by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The five-and-forty years' friendship which has enabled Doctor Tait to speak with authority upon the ever fresh lessons of far-reaching influence, which are to be drawn from the life of Arthur Stanley, specially qualify him to dwell upon that aspect of his life, which, to more advanced Churchmen than either the hero of the biographical sketch or the biographer himself, are somewhat painful. But the excuses put forward for what is somewhat charitably called the late Dean's "reti-"cence on matters of doctrine," are skilfully and effectively urged. Whether we are convinced or not by the Archbishop's arguments we cannot but feel that no attempt to form an accurate conception of Dean Stanley's position, whether in reference to the Broad Church school, commonly so called, or to the Church of England as a whole, can possibly be successful, which ignores this valuable contribution to the study of that somewhat difficult question. *Good Words* always contains a sermon, and we are glad to find that we are called upon to listen this month to the Bishop of Peterborough, and not, as is too often the case, to the Bishop of Rochester. "A. K. H. B.," who has, if we mistake not, been silent for some time, renews his pleasant, if not very profound, platitudes, treating in the present number of breaking down, physical and mental—one of three troubles to come, on which he proposes to discourse. We have ourselves a kind of sneaking kindness for the veteran essayist; but it is possible that a less kindly-disposed critic might consider his discourse to be of a character which would render superfluous Dr. Granville's accompanying paper on "The Wooing "of Sleep." There is more of vigour and life in such papers as "My First Salmon "Run," by Francis Francis, and the very interesting sketch of "Winter Life in Holland," by Mr. R. T. Pritchett. But we must not pass from the January number of *Good Words* without a reference to the fiction, which has become so prominent a feature in its pages. There is always a novel by some well-known novelist going on in its pages, and the place which was occupied last year by Mr. Blackmore's "Christo-"well" is to be occupied this year by Mrs. Oliphant's "Lady Jane." As far as it goes at present it reminds us rather too forcibly of Mr. Trollope's "The Duke's Family;" but Mr. Gibbons's "Golden Shaft" also promises well.

The *Antiquary* enters this month on its fifth volume, and shows no sign of any falling off in interest or attraction. The Holkham bust of Thucydides brought from Italy in the middle of the last century, and long supposed to have been Metrodorus, forms the subject of perhaps the most interesting of the papers, but the account of the "Funeral of the Old Pretender," by Mr. Bent, and the sketch of the "Low Countries "in the Time of James I.," reproduced from the State papers in the Public Record Office, are very remarkable. Mr. Penrose's account of "The Legend of St. Sunnefa" is a curious contribution to the study of ecclesiastical antiquity. The new magazine which has branched off from the *Antiquary*, and is devoted to the investigation of book lore, is entitled the *Bibliographer*, and the number for January is the second which has appeared. It opens with an interesting article on the "Bishops' Bible," of which we are promised a continuation. Then follows an article on "Dante, in England," in which is discussed the question when the works of the author of the *Divina Commedia* first became known in England. There is nothing else of so much general interest, but the papers on the "Woodcutters of the "Netherlands," and the early topography of the "Lambeth Library," are likely to attract specialists. Nor must we omit to notice the very full description of the "Sunderland Sale," in which the prices of all the principal lots are recorded in greater detail than was the case with the daily newspapers.

The ground occupied by the two periodicals to which we have just referred is also covered by the new journal which has been set on foot by Mr. Walford, the original editor of the *Antiquary*, who claims also to be the first originator of the *Bibliographer*. Our readers will remember the active controversy which has been waged on this subject, of which we can only say let the best man win. We doubt, however, if there is room both for Mr. Stock's periodicals and for this, their new rival, *The Antiquarian Magazine and Bibliographer*, of which Mr. Walford is the editor, and Mr. Reeves and Messrs. Simpkin and Marshall are the publishers. We feel inclined to say—"How happy should we be with either," and Mr. Walford has claims on the attention of all students of antiquarian love which cannot be ignored: so, though not first in the field, he is a formidable competitor to those who have succeeded him in the earlier venture. Like the *Antiquary*, the new periodical contains a variety of interesting matter, and we find in it a notice of the Sunderland Library and also of the Chapter House at Westminster, which formed the subject of a paper in last month's number of the first-named periodical. We should not omit to notice the very graceful Latin verses in which the present editor commends his venture to the notice of his readers.

The English Church Union office publishes a second and improved edition of the Rev. J. Wayland Joyce's valuable work *The Sword and the Keys*. It would be "gilding refined gold" to say a word on the venerable author's qualifications. The materials have been revised and rearranged under the editorship of his son, the Rector of Cowley, and there is a large appendix of Judgments and Statutes, arranged with the aid of the Rev. T. W. Perry. The whole is thus brought down to the present time, and offers the most complete and authentic statement of the confusion and disaster brought upon the Ecclesiastical Courts by the blunders of modern legislation.

Correspondence.

FRENCH EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—The subjoined extract from the Paris correspondent of the *Times* will *show* the downward tendency of French education, and may serve as a warning to England against certain schemes of education.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
A LONDON PARSON.

The Supreme Educational Council has unanimously sanctioned a scheme for girls' secondary education, in execution of the law carried by M. Camille Sée and warmly supported by M. Paul Bert. The entrance age is twelve, and during the first three years all the lessons, four per diem, are obligatory, the chief subjects being the French language and literature, English and German, and geography. Arithmetic, elements of science, drawing, and singing are also included, with sewing and gymnastics twice a week; zoology in winter, and botany, accompanied by botanising walks, in summer. In the fourth and fifth years, French and modern languages, ancient history, astronomy and cosmography, domestic economy, and animal and vegetable physiology are obligatory; while ancient literature, elements of Latin, mathematics, physics, singing, and drawing are optional. An examination at the end of the fifth year will earn a diploma, and a sixth year will be devoted to training for teaching of special careers. *Religious teaching, like Greek, is conspicuous by its absence;* nor does M. Jules Simon appear to have demurred to this exclusion.

DEAN STANLEY AND THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Dear *John Bull*,—Are an honest *ex-animo* adherence to one's Ordination vows, and a consequent sincere defence of the full integrity and entire authenticity of the sacred Scriptures and of the binding truthfulness of the doctrines therein contained, as ever received by the Apostolic Catholic Church, any longer necessary to one's character as an honourable gentleman, a conscientious clergyman, and a true Christian? If so, how is it that the Archbishop of Canterbury, the chief priest and pastor of the Anglo-Catholic Church, is so specially anxious for the publication of a superior biography of the late Dean Stanley as to write a paper on the subject, as I understood from the *John Bull*, in *Good Words*?

"Free-thought," in its modern liberal acceptation, is *not* morally permissible to His "peculiar people" concerning the nature and doings of the Supreme Being after He has once condescended to reveal Himself to them. How much less then is such irreverent trifling lawful for a man who, like Dean Stanley, has, as chief of that "chosen generation"—and one, too, continuing to his death willingly to receive its highest honours and richest emoluments—sworn to believe, to minister, and to teach strictly according to its creeds, principles, and laws?

Yours very truly,
A. T.
Diocese of Huron, St. Thomas's Day, 1881.

THE CLERGY AND EMIGRATION.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—The circular of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who I can personally testify has consistently encouraged emigration, points to a very great need. The first few weeks in a strange country is the crucial time for an immigrant's future. Then he requires the greatest amount of sympathy, advice, &c. How natural, then, that, if connected with a Church, numbering at home and abroad 170 dignitaries and 30,000 clergy, he should be placed in the hands of those who have a double interest in his welfare! I always had the characters written on vellum, to be shown to the colonial clergy, and many an instance could I narrate of the marked good effect of such documents. The moment an immigrant lands in the colony, each Church (denomination) tries her utmost to secure him. Why should not the National Church, which has watched over him in England, do her best to retain him?

Therefore, from practical experience, I can testify to the great probability of the best results being likely to follow from the admirable circular of the Archbishop of Canterbury. I must protest against Mr. Hill's assertion that the clergy are less qualified to assist emigrants, &c. I affirm, Sir, that during the past quarter of a century the clergy have, by their common sense and seeking the well-being of suffering humanity, proved themselves foremost in philanthropic deeds.

A good hive ought, from time to time, to send forth a swarm, and where better than to her own colonies? It is true that the Colonial Office hardly recognises such "benefactors" who are filling up her vast colonial empire. Neither, perhaps, as Mr. Hill suggests, is there always a proper sense of gratitude shown by those who have been helped out for the time, money, and energy expended. I thoroughly believe emigration is the most permanent way of assisting the poor, and that money so subscribed produces a hundredfold. I may, perhaps, during the coming spring invite you to honour me with the publication of a letter from Canada and Manitoba. Meanwhile I hope the home and colonial clergy will follow out fully the excellent practical suggestions given in the Archbishop's circular.—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. STYLEMAN HERRING, Vicar, and Chairman of Clerkenwell Emigration Society.
St. Paul's, 45, Colebrooke-row, N.

TITHE COMMUTATION — SEPTENNIAL AVERAGES.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—As the result of the corn averages for the seven years to Christmas, 1881, published in the *London Gazette* of this evening, viz.:—

Wheat	...	5s. 10½d. per imperial bushel.
Barley	..	4s. 6d. ditto.
Oats	...	3s. 0½d. ditto.

I beg to state that each £100 of Tithe-rent Charge will, for the year 1882, amount to £102 16s. 2d., or about four and one-third per cent. less than last year.

The following shows the worth of £100 Tithe-rent Charge for the last seven years.

For the year 1876	...	...	...	£110	14	11
1877	...	...	...	109	16	11½
1878	...	...	...	112	7	5½
1879	...	...	...	111	15	1½
1880	...	...	...	109	17	9½
1881	...	...	...	107	2	10½
1882	...	...	...	102	16	2

The average value of £100 Tithe-rent Charge for the forty-six years elapsed since the passing of the Tithe Commutation Act, is £103 3s. 8½d.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,
MONTAGUE MARRIOTT, Editor of *Willich's Tithe Commutation Tables*.
7, *Montpelier-square, London, S. W., January* 3.

A HALF-CENTURY OF PROGRESS.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—In continuation of my remarks in your issue of last Saturday, there is one point which must be borne in mind to prevent misconception. My argument does not assert that the nett annual income of each clergyman available for his own wants and those of his family is greater now than it was fifty years ago. Indeed, I fear the contrary is the case, "owing to the heavy demands made upon him for the support of the religious work of his parish." (*Quarterly Review*, April, 1881.) Still the increase, where it is real, enables more work to be done, and likewise increases the efficiency of church work, by allowing of better organisation of the Parochial System.

There are two sources whence this increase proceeds—(1), natural growth in the value of property; (2) external additions made to the endowments of benefices.

As regards (1), while allowing that "*some* increase has been made in the value of property," the reviewer shows, however, that "comparatively few benefices can have been raised in value from less than £500 a year to more than that sum by natural growth in the value of property," adding—"Therefore, it would be a mistake to suppose that the additional value of the funds devoted to the support of the clergy is chiefly due to a natural increment in the rents derivable from property."

In view of the misrepresentations of the Liberation Society on the subject of Tithes and Endowments, this is a valuable testimony from an unimpeachable authority.

It follows, therefore, that the main increase in the average annual income of each benefice must be owing either to additions to endowments from external sources, or "by a re-distribution and better husbanding of the Church's own revenues."

From the credit attached to this result, nevertheless, the reviewer, for reasons I will not enter into, excludes "the action of the Commissioners appointed to carry out the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836." Generally speaking, this action had to contend with "seasons and prices," unfavourable as compared with the same conditions under the old system.

Proceeding to the pew-rent system it is shown that, save "in some few West-end parishes," incumbents have ceased to rely to any great extent on pew-rents as a source of income. Also, as regards the offertory system, it appears that incumbents, except in a few town parishes, derive no personal advantage rom the offertory."

The Act of 1836, which called into existence the Ecclesiastical Commission, and that of 1840, passed in order to enlarge the powers of the Commission "so as to enable it to make better provision for the spiritual wants of the people," constitute the beneficial legislation of the last fifty years, to which is due—humanly speaking—the progress made since 1840 in the direction of "securing to the Church the income of her own property." The various reports issued by this Commission down to the last report for the year ending October 31, 1880, show a steadily progressing and permanent improvement in the provision "made for the spiritual wants of the people." And this in more than one or two directions. But it will suffice to mention, in passing, that the Commissioners have been able to deal on the whole successfully with the question of tithe-rent charge as it came to the front in different districts, and to recover in some measure tithe-rent which had been alienated from "the purposes for which it was originally bestowed." Their other operations include the provision of additional churches, incumbents, and curates, in many new districts where the need was very pressing. Under the latter head, as appears from the Appendix No. 6 to the report issued for this year (pp. 46-51) it seems that "they had promised assistance to the extent of about £24,000 towards providing additional curates in parishes with mining populations." This grant is renewed annually, or at least offered on condition of an equal sum being raised from other sources to meet the amount of the grant in each separate case or claim. *But, owing to the great difficulty in obtaining curates, a fourth or fifth part of this grant is ordinarily unclaimed.*

It is with this difficulty that it behoves all having the best interests of the Church and people at heart to give their attention with a view to its solution.

There are five or more other sources of increase of the endowments of benefices, some of which—without misappropriation of the revenues at their disposal—might contribute, in the same way as the Commissioners have done, to the provision of additional clergy, not necessarily beneficed, in manufacturing, mining, and other industrial centres.

Dec. 30, 1881. G. E. W.

The intelligence that an attempt to steal the remains of either the late Emperor of the French or those of his unfortunate son, the Prince Imperial, was contemplated, has produced the most intense excitement at Chislehurst. The telegram to Monsignor Goddard bade him and all in charge of the remains to beware of body snatchers, but was rather vague in its terms, and it might fairly have been inferred from its writing that a futile attempt had already been made to take away the remains. There are, however, no outward indications that the coffins had been in any way tampered with. Although every care has all along been taken to prevent any attempt of the kind, yet Monsignor Goddard deemed it advisable, in view of the circumstances, to take increased precautions. The police were informed of the matter, and a constable has for some time been set to watch the church. The Empress has not been told, as it was thought inadvisable to trouble her, about the affair, but the chief personages in her suite have been communicated with. Yesterday afternoon, Detective Philips, of the Metropolitan Police, and one of the local police inspectors, by instructions from the authorities, visited the church and were shown over it by Monsignor Goddard. The object of their visit was to ascertain what further steps might be necessary to ensure the safe keeping of the bodies. The late Emperor's remains lie in the side chapel within a granite mausoleum. To remove the coffins it would be requisite to lift a heavy block of granite weighing about three tons, and disengage a solid slab of slate, which is cemented and morticed into the stonework and the lower granite receptacle. In the case of the Prince's remains the task could be more easily accomplished. His body still lies in the coffin, under the pall, just as placed after the funeral, in the side-entrance porch, which has thus been turned into a temporary chapel. There is an iron rail doorway barring the entrance to the church, whilst the outer doorway has been permanently blocked up. The railed door is blocked, and the Imperial seal placed over the lock. It is now contemplated, in addition to other precautions, to connect the coffins, by means of wires, with an electric alarm bell, to be placed in the clergyman's residence, which adjoins the chapel.

We understand that Messrs. Metzler and Co., of Great Marlborough-street, are, by command of Her Majesty, preparing for publication a complete collection of the musical compositions, sacred and secular, of H.R.H. Prince Consort, the whole being produced under the able supervision of Mr. W. G. Cusins, Her Majesty's "Master of Musicke." We believe we are violating no confidence in mentioning that the first idea was that this collection should be printed for private circulation only, but on its having been represented to Her Majesty that such a work, if publicly issued, would obviously command universal interest both at home and abroad, a gracious assent to such publication was at once accorded, and the collection will shortly be issued at the moderate price of one guinea.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—Cure Coughs-Asthma, Bronchitis, Difficulty of Breathing (recog. nised and recommended by the Medical Faculty as the most effectual and reliable remedy). One Lozenge alone gives relief. They contain no Opium, Morphia, nor any violent drug, and may be taken by the most delicate. One or two at bed-time ensures rest when troubled by the throat. The proprietor receives, constantly, the most gratifying letters from those who have proved their great value. Keating's Cough Lozenges are sold by all Chemists, in tins, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed Acrostic Editor, *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed in doubtful cases, but never where the light is a quotation.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 6.
(Twenty-fourth Quarter.)

1. H ubbu	B
2. O w	E
3. L ette	R
4. L arde	R
5. Y esterda	Y

Correct solutions have been received from Alga, Arab, Alice, Bruce, Barbara, B. Forde, Conjecture, Culverin, Chavornes, Cymro, Cousin, Chestnut, Dinah, Dunstan, Elsie, Etak, Enna, Heene, Hampton Courtier, Hadji, Hero, Iris, Jib, Katydid, Ketha, Knole, Lavecrop, Libys, Lathyra, Land o' Nod, Liz, Magnet, M.A.E.B., Mac, Noremac, Pegasus, Pirate King, Peewit, Quiz, Roslyn, St. Chad, Sparks, Sappho, Spero, Tutamen, Two Countesses, The Owl, Visille Miss, Wylmcote, X., Zulus, Zanga, and Zenobia.—53 correct, 10 incorrect, total, 63.

Peewit, Tutamen, and X., were accidentally omitted from the list of correct solvers last week.

Elsie.—It is quite admissible to send the answers to the Acrostics of two different weeks in one envelope, but they should be written on separate sheets of paper.

St. Chad is credited with a correct solution to Acrostic No. 2; and Quiz, Roslyn, X., and Magnet to Acrostic No. 4.

Brussels Sprout.—We should be glad of another Acrostic from you. The last was hardly up to your usual mark.

The Acrostic Editor begs to thank his correspondents for their very kind wishes for the New Year, which he most cordially reciprocates.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 8.
(Twenty-fourth Quarter.)

Proem.

My first has a land in the far, far north,
Mid endless ice and snow;
Where my second is more than double its worth,
And works very hard I trow.
My whole is as cosy and warm and snug,
As a nestling e'er can be,
And may be the smallest, tiniest pug,
That ever you could see.

1.
The present burning question.
2.
The destroyer of the famous Python.
3.
A sharp, keen pain.

E. E. J.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. G. I. Davies, Rector of Kelsale with Carlton, to Rural Deanery of South Dunwich.

Rev. H. E. Browne Ffolkes, Rector of Hillington, to Rural Deanery of King's Lynn.

Rev. E. W. Field, Assistant-Curate of SS. Michael and All Angels, Croydon, to Vicarage of All Hallows, East India Docks. Patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Rev. W. W. Hutt, Rector of Hockwold with Wilton, to Rural Deanery of the Southern Division of Cranwich.

Rev. J. Jessopp, Vicar of St. Gregory, Norwich, to be Acting Chaplain to the 1st Norfolk Artillery Volunteer Corps, Norwich.

Rev. A. Lawrence, Curate of Berwick-upon-Tweed, to Rectory of Chevington. Patron, the Bishop of Durham.

Rev. S. Marle, to Curacy of All Cannings, Wilts.

Rev. G. E. Portal, Rector of Burghclere, Hants, Rural Dean, to be Honorary Canon in Winchester Cathedral.

Rev. A. J. Porter, to Vicarage of St. St. Helen's, and Chaplain of the Great Hospital, St. Helen's, Norwich. Patrons, the Trustees.

Rev. G. C. Robinson, Assistant-Priest of St. Philip's, Sydenham, to be Assistant-Priest of St. Augustine's, Honor Oak, S.E.

Rev. J. Samuel, to Curacy of Amesbury, Wilts.

Rev. J. H. Scott, Rector of Melcombe Regs-cum-Radipole, Weymouth, to be Surrogate.

Rev. M. G. Watkins, Rector of Barnoldby-le-Beck, to Rural Deanery of Grimsby.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of Durham.—Revs. Albert Whitelock, to Wolsingham; William Watkins, to Warden; Thomas Dowzer, to Lumley; Edward William Evans, to Matfen; William Downard, to Etherley.

OBITUARY.

Dec. 6, at Wolfville, the Rev. John Mockett Cramp, D.D., formerly of St. Peter's, Isle of Thanet, aged 85 years.

Dec. 27, the Rev. Robert Wynne, M.A., Vicar of Scalford, last surviving son of the late William Wynne, Esq., of Itchen Abbas, Hampshire, aged 58.

Dec. 23, at Meran, South Tyrol, the Rev. George Hodgson Wayte, of Bonehill, Tamworth, J.P. for Staffordshire, and late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, aged 49.

Dec. 29, at 11, Paragon, Bath, the Rev. James Skinner, late Vicar of Newland and Warden of the Beauchamp Charity, youngest son of the late Very Rev. John Skinner, Dean of Dunkeld and Dumblane, aged 63.

Dec. 31, at Cavendish-square, London, the Rev. Orbell Plampin Oakes, Rector of Hawkedon, Suffolk, aged 57.

Jan. 2, the Rev. William John Bennett, D.D., Oxon, formerly Curate of St. George's-in-the-East, and for many years Curate of Yetminster, aged 65.

Jan. 2, at Braunton, Devon, the Rev. Henry Hazard, formerly Curate of that parish.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The following reply has been received in answer to a petition from members of New College, Oxford, for the release of Mr. Green:—

Sir,—I am directed by Secretary Sir William Vernon Harcourt to acquaint you that your petition in behalf of the Rev. S. F. Green has been laid before Her Majesty, who has not been pleased to give any instruction with reference thereto. I am to add that, having consulted the law officers of the Crown, Sir William Harcourt is advised by them that the powers of the Crown to discharge persons from custody would not be rightly, or even constitutionally, exercised in the case of a person imprisoned for contempt of court committed by persistent disobedience to the lawful commands of a competent tribunal.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Godfrey Lushington.

In reply we (*Church Times*) append the following, which reaches us from very high authority:—

We understand, with reference to statements frequently made as to the difficulty of procuring Mr. Green's release, that it is now quite certain that responsibility in the matter rests absolutely with the Home Secretary. Sir William Harcourt, whose Erastian proclivities are well known, has from the outset obstinately declined to advise Her Majesty to exercise her Royal prerogative in Mr. Green's favour; and this is now, as it has always been, the sole obstacle to Mr. Green's being set free.

On December 22nd a new window placed in the south-east chapel of St Agnes' Church, Kennington-park, in memory of the Rev. Mackenzie Walcott, late Precentor of Chichester Cathedral, was solemnly dedicated to Almighty God. It consists of two scenes from the Resurrection Life of our Blessed Lord—viz., His appearance to the Magdalene and to the Apostles on the shore of the lake. Beneath these pictures are placed respectively the arms of the Walcott and Brownlow family, whilst between the two shields is read the following scroll:—

Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy house, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth.

These words are here inscribed in reverence of God and His Holy Church, and in dear memory of Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, Priest, B.D., Precentor and Prebendary of the Cathedral Church of Chichester, who fell asleep in Christ. Dec. XXII. MDCCCLXXX.

The window, which has been placed in the church by Mrs. Walcott in memory of her husband, was appropriately dedicated on the first anniversary of Mr. Walcott's death. The dedication service consisted of some Collects, followed by Psalm xxvi. and the hymn "Jerusalem, my happy home." The Psalm was one which had brought Mr. Walcott much comfort, and in his last illness he remarked to one who was ministering to him, that if he might choose a motto for his life it would be "Domini dilexi decorem domus Tuæ, et locum habitationis gloriæ Tuæ." It is a pleasure to know that St. Agnes' Church has thus received a lasting memorial of one who was a warm friend to it, and who often spoke of the rest and peace which he had found within its walls. The dedication service was followed by a choral celebration.

The church of St. Mary's, Bourdon-street, close to Grosvenor-mews, and at the back of the north side of Berkeley-square, is just completed after the design of Mr. Blomfield. It is built of red brick, with stone dressings, at the sole cost of the Duke of Westminster and his trustees, who also provided the site gratis. It will be entirely free and unappropriated, the seats being chairs.

The Rev. W. Wanstall, who has been curate of Sueinton, Notts, during the past eleven years, has, upon his presentation by the Bishop of Lincoln to the rectory of St. Peter-at-Gowts with St. Andrew, Lincoln, been presented with an address, a purse of money, a marble clock, and other testimonials by the parishioners, school teachers, working men's club, and Bible classes of his late parish.

The Rev. Canon Trench, vicar of St. George's, Everton, Liverpool, having resigned his benefice, the trustees have nominated the Rev. G. W. H. Knight-Bruce to the vacant living. Mr. Knight-Bruce has recently been officiating as curate in charge of St. Wendron, in the diocese of Truro.

A Christmas-tree in a church is certainly a novelty, yet we regret to say there was one this year in Arksey church, near Doncaster. The local paper, in describing the decorations, says:—

Separating the chancel from the body of the church was a low but very effective screen, on which was the text, "The Word was made flesh." The altar was vested in a most costly embroidered white silk frontal, with golden orphries and crimson frontlet; while the decorations of the sanctuary had evidently been carefully studied and carried out, the effect of the whole being heightened in the evening by a number of lighted candles and coloured lamps. Last, but not least, we must mention *a large Christmas-tree standing opposite the pulpit, covered with prizes for the Sunday School children, and with its many tapers and glistening fruits, forming a very striking addition to the whole.*

At the marriage of Mr. Samuel Bergheim, of Jerusalem, with Ellen, daughter of Mr. Charles O. Humphreys, in All Saint's Church, Norfolk-square, on Tuesday afternoon, the benediction at the termination of the service was pronounced by his Eminence Antonius, the Lord Archbishop of Corfu, who is now on a visit to the Very Rev. the Archimandrite Hieronymus Myriantheus, D.D., who was also present at the wedding ceremony.

The clergy and laity of the diocese of St. David's intend to present their Bishop with a pastoral staff, for the use of himself and his successors. The design is being prepared by Mr. Sedding.

A first step towards a London Diocesan Conference has been taken. The Bishop of London has requested his rural deans to invite the attendance of two lay delegates from each parish to confer with him as the feelings of the laity upon the subject.

Bible lectures for young men will be given at the Chapter-house, St. Paul's churchyard, by Canon Shuttleworth, at 8.15 p.m., as follows:—Jan. 12th, "The Five Books of Moses;" 16th, "Genesis and Criticism: Creation and Science;" 23rd, "The Fall: the Deluge: Babel;" Feb. 2nd, "Abraham and Isaac;" 9th, "Jacob, Esau, and Joseph."

The second monthly meeting of the Curates' Alliance was held on Friday week in the vestry of the parish church, Clerkenwell, which had been lent for the occasion by the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Rose. After the transaction of formal business, the Rev. G. B. Howard brought up the report of the committee on a clergy friendly society, and the rules of the proposed society were discussed *seriatim*. The committee suggested the formation of a society, on a strictly actuarial basis, which, in return for a proportionate monthly contribution, should secure to members one guinea per week during sickness lasting for twenty-six weeks, half-a-guinea for the subsequent twenty-six weeks; and which, after that, should cease for a further period of twenty-six weeks before again being payable. It was proposed by the Rev. G. Barr, seconded by the Rev. G. E. Watkins, and unanimously agreed to, that the draft of rules be approved, and that the Rev. G. B. Howard and the president be authorised to take steps for the formation of the clergy friendly society. After the ratification of the rates of contributions and benefits by a public actuary, and the registration of the rules by the registrar of friendly societies, the society will be open to receive applications for membership. Meanwhile communications may be addressed to the secretary *pro tem.*, the Rev. G. B. Howard, Oakhurst, Forest-hill, London, S.E. It was understood that the committee would present a further report on an annuity or pension fund, and that the report on the *status* of curates would be ready for the next monthly meeting. In reply to a vote of thanks, the Vicar of Clerkenwell expressed his readiness to lend the vestry for future meetings of the Alliance. Communications on the general business of the Curates' Alliance should be addressed to the Rev E. G. O'Donoghue, 49, Glasshouse-street, Regent-street, London, W.

A church, the gift of the Rev. A. and Mrs. Olivier, in memory of the late Archdeacon Hill, was opened at Derby on St. Thomas's Day, by the Bishop of Lichfield. Over fifty clergy of the town and neighbourhood were present. The church is planned with nave, aisles, transepts, and chancel, and is capable of seating 550. The building is Norman in style, and is built of Coxbench and Duffield stone outside, while the inside is of bricks plastered. The roof is of red tiles, with ornamental cresting. The architect is Mr. Joseph Peacock, of Bloomsbury-square, London, who also designed the mother church of St. James. One of the handsomest features in the new church is the beautiful stained glass in the east windows, the gift of the architect, and which has been executed by Messrs. Mayer and Co., of New Bond-street, London.

On Monday week an attempt was made to rob St. Peter's, Cornhill, which is one of the oldest churches in England, and possesses many valuable relics. There is a tradition that its original prototype was founded in the year 108, and there is a very curious ancient muniment in the vestry bearing an inscription to that effect. The communion plate is the most valuable in the country, and is very curious. Among others is a spoon of pure gold, the bowl of which is drilled and has many small holes. Among other treasures is a manuscript Bible, beautifully illuminated. All these are shown in the church on great festivals, and it was no doubt in the hope of capturing the whole or some of these articles that the attempt was made. The burglars appear to have climbed the railings of the churchyard in St. Peter's-alley, and thus got upon an outhouse. Here they commenced operations upon the roof, and made a hole large enough for a good-sized man to get through. They did not, however, succeed in gaining entry to the vestry, where the goods were supposed to be, for they were stopped by an old iron door, which seems to have defied all their efforts. They next made a second opening, this time in the northern corner of the roof of the vestry. Here their search was still fruitless. The strong room on the right hand or northern side of the vestry, in which are deposited the records of centuries, was next tried, but a stout old iron door resisted the jemmy and crowbar. After this the men seem to have decamped by piling the leathern chairs in the vestry one upon another, and making their exit through the hole they had made in the vestry ceiling. The cupboard in the vestry containing several bottles of wine, though open, was left untouched. This is the third time an attempt to rob has been made within two years at the same church.

A little after nine o'clock on Christmas Eve, a fire was discovered in St. Paul's Church, Strines, near Stockport, and before the flames could be extinguished one-half of the edifice, including the chancel, was destroyed. The structure is of iron with inside casing of wood, along which the fire spread with great rapidity. The church was erected about eighteen months ago by Mr. T. H. Nevill, of Strines. The chancel was very tastefully furnished, and several gifts had recently been presented by Mr. Nevill and his family. Most of these, however, perished; the well-appointed altar, with its costly frontal, the organ, chancel screen, and much new music and books being either entirely destroyed or irreparably injured. The fire was caused by a paraffin lamp being placed too near the organ in order to air it; and it is a cause of additional regret that, as the use of a lamp was an infringement of the conditions of the policy, the insurance company with whom the building was insured have refused compensation for the damage done. The church had been prettily decorated for Christmas, but the congregation had to spend their festival in the school-room, where two celebrations and Evensong were held by the curate-in-charge, the Rev. J. Davenport Jones.

On Sunday morning, during service at Holy Trinity Church, Bingley, near Bradford, a stone fell from the roof. The congregation started to their feet, and in spite of the assurance of the clergyman that there was no immediate danger a number of people left the church. Fortunately no one was injured, and the service was continued. It has been known for some time that the tower of the church was subsiding.

The Bishop of Ely has addressed the following pastoral to the Dean and to all rectors, vicars, and curates within the diocese of Ely, and to the congregations committed to their charge:—

"Brethren,—We have been brought by the providence of God to the close of a year marked by abundant mercies, but which has also brought to many amongst us grievous trials and loss. Those engaged in agriculture, who constitute the main part of the population of this diocese, have for some time past had to bear the burden of unfavourable seasons and the consequent failure of their crops. The hopes which cheered them up to a late period of last summer were in many districts disappointed at the moment when they seemed about to be fulfilled. We stand now on the threshold of a new year. We wait anxiously for its succession of seasons to unfold. What those seasons shall be is hidden with God. Its spring-tide and its autumn are in His hands. At such a time it appears to me most fitting that we should lift up our hearts unto Him that dwelleth in the heavens, and begin the new year with solemn public prayer that He will be pleased once again to give us His blessing, to multiply the seed sown and to preserve unto us the fruits of the ground.

I therefore request my brethren the clergy of this diocese to give notice of the observance of Sunday, January 22nd, 1882, as a day of intercession with Almighty God that in the coming year our land may yield its increase abundantly, and I earnestly exhort the inhabitants of our several parishes to join heartily in such prayers and supplications, remembering the Divine words, "the Lord maketh poor and maketh rich—He bringeth low and lifteth up."

May God prepare your hearts and may His ear be open to your prayers. I am, your servant in Christ,

New Year's Eve, 1881. J. R. Ely.

Proper Psalms and Lessons &c., authorised by the Ordinary to be used in the Diocese of Ely upon Sunday, January 22nd, 1882, at Morning and Evening Service.

Proper Psalms—morning, 25, 27, 65; evening, 77, 80, 121. Proper Lessons—morning, 2 Chronicles vii. 12—22 (inclusive), St. John vi. 26—58 (inclusive): evening,

Deuteronomy, xxviii. 1—13 (inclusive), St. James v. 7 to the end.

Immediately after the Third Collect at Morning and Evening Prayer shall be said—

O Most Glorious and Gracious Lord God, Who dwellest in heaven, but beholdest all things below, we humbly beseech Thee that, although we for our evil deeds have worthily deserved to be punished, yet upon our true repentance Thou wilt send us such weather as that we may receive the fruits of the earth in due season; and learn both to amend our lives and for Thy clemency to give Thee praise and glory, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION.

The following shall be the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel.

O God, Whose never-failing Providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; we humbly beseech Thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those things which be profitable for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Epistle, Deuteronomy viii. 1.
The Gospel, St. Matthew vii. 7.

The fine old church of St. Bartholomew, Lostwithiel, is undergoing a gradual process of restoration and decoration, in the course of which many interesting features of the original building have been brought to light and carefully preserved. Piscinas were discovered at the east ends of both north and south aisles, indicating the former presence of side altars, which were probably destroyed by the commissioners of Henry VIII., who visited this and other districts in Cornwall. A handsome pulpit of carved wood, on a pedestal of Pentewan stone, has been erected by the children of the late Mr. W. Collins, who was thrice elected mayor of the town. A reredos has been presented by Miss Foster, an oak lectern by Mrs. Beckerley, and a new heating apparatus by Mr. R. Foster, a well-known London merchant and munificent Churchman.

On Tuesday afternoon Lady Helen Stewart opened a grand fancy bazaar in the schoolroom, Weymouth-terrace, Hackney-road, in aid of the funds requisite for the repairs of the church, schools, and churchyard of St. Mary, Haggerston. The bazaar room was handsomely decorated, and presented an exceedingly pretty and effective sight, the decorations, which were executed by the young men connected with the church, including banners, flags, lanterns, mirrors, and a profusion of decorative mottoes.

The Vicar of Ulverston, Cumberland, the Rev. C. W. Bardsley, has found it necessary to warn his parishioners against patronising the Salvationists. He says that one of the greatest dangers of the present day is that of too great a familiarity with God. Many professing Christians had ceased to supplicate the Almighty, or reverently, and with a consciousness of personal shortcomings, to ask Him for mercies and blessings. It was the fashion now to demand, and some went so far as to remonstrate with God when what they asked was not promptly conceded and bestowed. It was probable that this had arisen through the too familiar style adopted by the American itinerant evangelists and the leaders of the Salvationists. As to the latter, if what he had heard of their proceedings was correct he solemnly warned the people of Ulverston not to attend their services. At no time in the history of the Church of England had her beautiful Liturgy appeared to him more impressive and reverent, more suitable and desirable than at the present time, and he trusted its frequent and fervent use might serve to counteract the effect of the irreverent so-called services now so common. He believed in most cases the effects of sensational conversions were evanescent; but if the Salvationists succeeded in rescuing one soul from the black darkness of unbelief he should heartily rejoice.

The National Society for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead in the Churches and Churchyards of Great Britain has now been organised, and has made considerable progress. The object of the Society is to preserve and protect the memorials of the dead in the parish churches and churchyards of Great Britain—a much-needed work, and on all hands an acknowledged want. The rules of the Society suggest various ways of accomplishing the work—*e.g.*, by securing a record being made of sepulchral memorials now existing, &c. We observe the formation of the Society has met the approval, support, and sympathy of Earl Beauchamp, the Earl of Carnarvon, President of the Society of Antiquaries, the Earls of Glasgow and Northesk, Lord Talbot de Malahide, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, the Bishops of Ely and Lichfield, the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham, the Bishop of Winchester, the Right Hon. A. J. B. Beresford Hope, M.P., Lord H. J. Scott, M.P., Sir George Floyd Duckett, Bart., Sir Henry M. Vavasour, Bart., Sir Charles J. Palmer, Bart., Sir John Gilbert, President of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, the Deans of Manchester, Lichfield, Ripon, Canterbury, Worcester, and York, the Archdeacons of Maidstone, Ely, and Sudbury, Canon E. Venables, Stanley Leighton, Esq., M.P., R. W. Cochran-Patrick, Esq., M.P., and Cecil G. C. Foljambe, Esq., M.P. The late Mr. G. E. Street four days before his death had accepted the post of honorary architect. Honorary secretaries are appointed for the counties of Cambridge, Sussex, Essex, Durham, Lincoln, Middlesex, Norfolk, Nottingham, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Warwick, by whom names of persons wishing to become members are received, and of whom any information may be obtained. The secretary is Mr. William Vincent, Lower Hellesdon-road, Norwich.

The Rev. E. J. Doherty, from Mitcham, Surrey, has been appointed to the spiritual charge of St. John's, Plumstead—a mission church in connection with the ancient church of St. Nicholas, situated on the borders of the metropolitan area in Plumstead. Mr. Doherty succeeds the Rev. W. T. Rowley, who has gone to Aldershot. The stipend is £200 a year, and is in the gift of the Bishop of Rochester. It has been for some time in contemplation to build a permanent church in the district of St. John's. On the occasion of the wreck of the *Princess Alice*, which occurred nearly opposite the site of the existing temporary church, the then incumbent (Mr. Rowley) lost two children, whilst he himself narrowly escaped, and it was then suggested that the proposed new church should be erected *in memoriam* of the terrible catastrophe. About £2,000 has been subscribed, and it now remains for the new incumbent to obtain funds for the completion of the work.

At a meeting of the Straits Legislative Council on November 22 last, a despatch was submitted from Lord Kimberley to the Governor, Sir F. A. Weld, dated September 30, 1881, on the subject of the position of the Bishop of Labuan (the Rev. G. F. Hose, D.D.), and directing the disendowment of the Church in that colony, after five years' grace, in a similar manner to that recently adopted in the Island of Ceylon. The reason assigned for taking this step is that the number of attendants at the Established Church in the whole colony is only 749 out of a Christian population of 9,000, and a total population of 308,097, and that the people generally should, therefore, not be taxed in a sum of 12,456 dollars per annum (about £2,800) to pay the salaries of ministers and maintain the Church of that small minority. Lord Kimberley points out that Bishop Hose enjoys no exclusive territorial privileges under the letters patent which created the diocese of Labuan, he having been consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, under the Queen's licence, with the intent only that he should exercise the episcopal office in some one of Her Majesty's possessions abroad.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice last week, before Mr. Justice Fry, the case of Usill *v.* Whelpton was set down for hearing. It was brought on by the incumbent of the new church of All Saints against the incumbent of St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, to compel the latter specifically to carry out an alleged agreement to transfer a portion of the district of St. Saviour's to All Saints, which it was intended should have a district carved out of three older districts. It may be remembered that the action has been before the courts on former occasions on demurrer, when Sir R. Malins decided that, as a matter of law, such an agreement as was alleged was capable of being specifically enforced. Soon after the trial had commenced the leading counsel conferred, each producing a form of proposed settlement. The Attorney-General consented to compare the two forms of settlement, and have one drawn up to satisfy both sides. The chief provisions of the settlement are that Mr. Usill shall relinquish all claims to a small triangular piece of land between Mead's-road, Blackwater-road, and Grange-road; shall not apply for it to the Mead's trustees, or even accept it, for ten years. Meanwhile the Duke of Devonshire agrees not to build a church there until such time as the Bishop of the diocese shall certify to a need of one. This virtually disposes of the difficulty between the two incumbents. The Attorney-General stated to the Judge that the settlement proceeded from both clergymen, who were anxious to promote the welfare of their parishioners rather than their own interests. Mr. Justice Fry emphatically expressed his pleasure on hearing this.

A correspondent sends us (*Guardian*) a fuller account of the interesting services on Christmas Eve in Truro Cathedral than that we gave last week:—

"On Christmas Eve at 10.30 p.m., in the wooden building which is at present doing duty as the Cathedral Church of Truro, took place (as was the case last year also) a service original in character, and if we may judge from the quiet and interested attention of a dense crowd, many of whom were obliged to stand throughout the service, adapted for a more extended use. Its main features are simplicity, pointed instructiveness, and popularity.

"It consists mainly of nine Lessons from Holy Scripture, teaching the truth of the Incarnation. Each Lesson is followed by a carol (in one instance the *Adeste Fideles*) developing with the characteristic vigour and boldness of carol poetry the thought of the Lesson. It is easily understood by the most simple and ignorant, and no one would go away without having felt in some measure the greatness of the fact which Christmas celebrates. The Lessons selected were Gen. iii. 8—16, Gen. xxii. 15—19, Numbers xxiv. 15—18, Isaiah ix. 6—8, Micah v. 2—5, St. Luke ii. 8—16, St. John i. 1—15, Galat. iv. 4—8, 1 John i. 1—5. Before each Lesson, the reader took his stand beside the Bishop's stall at the gate of the choir, while the Bishop pronounced one of the Benedictions anciently used, to which the congregation responded Amen. Some of the Benedictions are of singular beauty, and make one wish that all Lessons, whenever read, might be prefaced by such a prayer for God's blessing on His Word. Such, for instance, is the opening one—'With perpetual benediction may the Father everlasting bless us;' and that before the Sixth Lesson from the Gospel of St. Luke—'By the words of God's Gospel be our sins blotted out;' and the one before the Seventh Lesson—'May the fountain of the Gospel fill us with the doctrine of heaven.' One interesting feature, marking the gladness with which the co-operation of the laity is welcomed in the diocese, was that four out of the nine Lessons were read by laymen; the first by the senior chorister boy, the second by a lay clerk, the third and fourth by lay-readers; four others were read by clergy of the Cathedral church, and the ninth and last was read by the Bishop, the last words of which—'These things write we unto you that your joy may be full'—made a fitting close.

"To make the service as real as possible, some few rubrical directions were printed in the books of the words, the congregation being directed to stand during the reading of the Gospel from St. John, to join in the choruses of the carols, and to kneel during the last two verses of the carol—'Once again, O blessed time'—where the words run—

Thee true God and Thee true Man,
On our knees confessing.

The service began with the Lord's Prayer and Versicles, and closed with the *Magnificat* and the Christmas Collect. Simple at the beginning the service remained simple throughout—there being no anthem to interrupt its congregational character; and when the congregation, led by a choir of nearly 100 voices, with organ and trumpet accompaniment, took up the *Magnificat*, as set by Dr. Stainer to the Parisian tone, few could have remained unimpressed.

"The service was drawn up in its entirety by the Bishop of Truro, and seems to meet a popular want. In years gone by much went on at the ordinary carol-singing at houses which made thoughtful people doubt of its expediency. Among other things the great and wealthy were ministered to, while the poor had no chance of hearing the carols which they so much enjoy, except at the bar of a public-house. By this service, held as early as business people on that busy night can get away, the wants of all are provided for, and many of those who come out of curiosity are sent away with deeper thoughts about the great lesson of Christmas-tide."

The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland have addressed to the clergy and laity the subjoined Pastoral Letter respecting the proposed Day of Humiliation:—

To the Ministering Clergy of the Church of Ireland greeting:
December 30, 1881.

Dear Brethren of the Clergy,—You are doubtless already aware that it is purposed to observe Friday, the 13th of January, 1882, as a special day of humiliation on the part of that Church whereof we are members. Meanwhile, as a fitting preparation for the right observing of that day, and of all those perilous days which may be in store for us, we send through you to the whole body of our people in the land the Pastoral Letter which you hold in your hands, and request that you will read it on the Sunday which precedes the day just named, at such time during Divine service as may seem to you most expedient.

PASTORAL LETTER.

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,—We, the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland, using that authority which the Church has committed to us, and having respect to the difficult and dangerous crisis through which this Church and realm are now passing, have appointed Friday, the 13th of January, 1882, as a special day of humiliation. It is not a light occasion which has moved us to this step, as neither is the step itself a light one.

It is not a light occasion. All the future of a land justly dear to us—a land in which we have hoped to live and die—may be now at stake. In all likelihood it is now to be determined what is in reserve for this country during long years to come. Shall man be estranged from man, and class from class, till for the "sons of peace" there is no room in the land? Others may have had their full share in bringing about the catastrophe which threatens us; but assuredly there could be no worse sign and augury of the future than if we refused in our pride to accept our own share in this guilt. For us, too, and for our transgressions, for evil things done by us, for good things left undone, the land mourns, and there is nothing which more concerns us than a full and free acknowledgment of this. Then, too, we cannot lose sight of the fact that a day of humiliation and prayer, if slightly regarded by those who should have welcomed it with humble and thankful hearts, will have done them no good, but, on the contrary, much harm. We cannot forget the Lord's indignant remonstrance with his people, when in an hour of extreme peril, and with the foe at the gate, He called them to weeping and mourning and girding with sackcloth; and behold joy and gladness, "eating flesh and drinking wine." (Isaí. xxii. 12, 13.) Dearly beloved, see that you use aright that solemn day to the right keeping of which, during the present week, we invite you. Observe it as a very precious opportunity. Keep ever in mind that we come together not to denounce other people's sins, but to lament and bewail our own; not to draw sharper lines of unfriendly separation between ourselves and other dwellers in the same land with ourselves, but, as far as this may be, to draw closer in love the bands which should bind them to us, and us to them. Be not overcome with evil; but overcome evil with good; so shall ye be true followers of Him who left us an example that we should follow his steps. May the Lord pour out on you and on us all the spirit of grace and supplication, so that when the Day of Humiliation is past, it may leave a large blessing behind it! To Him, to His love, and to His most gracious keeping, we commend you; and ever remain your faithful brethren and chief pastors in Christ.

Mr. Alder, one of the churchwardens of All Saints Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne, sends us the following account of the special Mission services just concluded:—

"Archdeacon Watkins and his junior curate, the Rev. A. S. Wardroper, resolved, as the end of the year drew near, to hold a series of special Mission services of such a nature as would be most attractive and applicable to the peculiar character of a parish such as I attempted to describe in my previous letter. The services commenced on Christmas Eve and closed on Sunday evening last—New Year's Day. They have been eminently successful, and have, on the part of the clergy, been carried out with an earnestness and vigour which has been readily recognised. Every evening during what is known here as the eight days' Mission the Archdeacon delivered an address, his congregation being on every occasion evidently impressed by the fervid faithfulness of the preacher, and his strong desire for their spiritual welfare. Like all similar services, the Mission had its special features. These were threefold, and I desire to note them, with your permission, as samples of the kind of agencies which can advantageously be employed in parishes like ours, where the poor are the especial element to which the attention of the clergy is directed. The first special feature was the means taken to make the mission known, and to arouse the general anxiety among all classes that it should be successful. To this end from 1,200 to 1,400 tickets were distributed by a willing staff of lay-helpers among the very poorest, most careless, and most neglected in the parish. The holder of this ticket was entitled to a seat at 7 p.m. any night during the week's services, and by virtue of his ticket claimed precedence over non-ticket-holders. Hence it was that the same brotherhood and sisterhood of attendance as I noted in connection with our musical service was visible almost every night of the Mission. 'Come in your working clothes,' said the ticket. The kind, homely words had the desired effect, and many were the hardy sons of toil who, 'fresh from labour and on good intent,' availed themselves of the friendly invitation. As an adjunct to this publicity Archdeacon Watkins, accompanied by his curate on one of the evenings, processioned some of the lowest quarters of the parish, attended by the choir in surplices—the clergy, being also robed, finishing the procession at the church (after an impressive open-air service and address from the Archdeacon) in time for the announced hour for the indoor-service. The exceptional character of the proceedings, the marked demeanour of the assembled hundreds as the well-known strains of 'Rock of Ages' rose on the evening breeze where they had seldom been heard before, the novelty of surpliced clergy and choristers visiting in love the purlieus of our town, and the true spirit of desiring to do good—to be all things to all men—which the movement manifested, was, I am convinced, silent seed wisely sown, which may yet bring forth good fruit.

"Just a word about the women's meeting. This was *the* meeting of the series on which most tact had to be brought to bear. The result proved how admirable the arrangements had been. During the whole of Wednesday twenty lady visitors had been engaged in a special house-to-house visitation, and as the hour of service approched each might have been seen bringing up her quota of worshippers. About 600 assembled to hear an address, 'gentle, kind, yet faithful,' from the Archdeacon; a peculiarly touching effect being produced when, pausing in the middle of his remarks, the rev. preacher asked his hearers to kneel down while they sang 'Rock of Ages.' The effect can scarcely be described. It was probably one of the most impressive services of the series.

"The midnight service had, of course, peculiarities of its own. I venture to doubt if All Saints ever contained before a thousand worshippers within its walls, as an old year died and a new year was ushered in. This was so on New Year's Eve, 1881, and New Year's morning, 1882. It is needless to say how the Archdeacon grasped the occasion, and sent home to the hearts of his hearers the solemn truths to which the season was calculated to give prominence. One minute after midnight, and 'the bells of the tower,' silent for many long years, chimed forth the news that 1882 was born. Soon the grand old church was empty; but no thinker present left without abundant store for thought.

"Sunday evening last saw the close of the Mission services. There could not be fewer than 2,500 present, a representative congregation in which poverty and comfort sat side by side, in which a feeling of common brotherhood was evidently felt, and to whom appropriate words of advice, warning, and exhortation were addressed with a plain eloquence which nothing could have enhanced. Archdeacon Watkins chose his text well, dealt with it fully, and with his hearers faithfully.

"So deep was the impression created on the occasion that I am tempted to subjoin an extract from a local paper, for which I beg you, if possible, to find room. The *Northern Daily Express* of Monday, referring to this service, says:—

Archdeacon Watkins delivered an address from beside the Communion Table, taking as the basis of his remarks the 7th verse of the 6th chapter of Galatians, "Be not deceived: God is not mocked, for that which a man soweth that shall he also reap." Sowing, growing, and reaping were the central points presented for thought; each worked out with a master hand, and applied with a faith eloquence and earnestness peculiarly appropriate to the season, and still more appropriate to the parish over which the rev. preacher presides. That the Archdeacon does not draw from imagination, but finds his duty in making himself personally acquainted with his people, is evident from these words—"I have walked through portions of this parish to-day, and have seen some scenes which, I pray God, I may never see again. Seed is being sown—such seed! What will the harvest be? I ask you, in your mercy and pity, to help us to cultivate the farm over which God has made us overseers." In dealing with the growing of the seed, the rev. preacher impressed upon his hearers the necessity of working as well as hoping—"Be honest, noble, true—true to yourselves, true to the seed you would like to see spring up. Ask for Heaven's blessing, Heaven's sun; get that blessing, and bask in the rays of that sun yourselves; spread its benign influence around you here, in this parish of misery and crime and poverty; then shall this wilderness rejoice and blossom as the rose, and become a garden of the Lord." Concluding, the Archdeacon said—"Then there is the reaping. 'We shall reap if we faint not.' Be not weary in well-doing. Every good desire, every lofty resolution, is seed that will one day bring forth its harvest. This night of all nights—the first night of a new year—we are looking back and looking forward. What has been the seed you have been sowing? What is the seed you intend to sow? I know well what the harvest is you would all wish to reap. You will like Heaven to be your home after children, and perhaps grandchildren, had been round your bed to close your eyes as you entered on your last sleep. But what are you sowing? "Be not deceived; God is not mocked. What you sow you will reap." Every unholy desire, every act tending to hurt yourself or your neighbour, is seed that must and will bear its fruit. They may seem gossamer threads at first; by-and-bye they will be chains. The oath, the unchaste word, the cruel act before your children, are seeds that will bear bitter fruit. Children hear and see. You take that young man to the gin-palace for the first time. He has come to a large town for the first time, followed by a father's blessings and a mother's prayers. You laugh at both, and sow the seed of his destruction. See to it that such seed is not of your sowing. May God in His mercy sow this one seed in your soul to-night, 'God is not mocked.'" The address was listened to with earnest attention by the vast congregation.

Thus ended a series of services which, I venture to think, will not prove as the morning cloud or the early dew. Whatever the results to All Saints as a parish may be, the great central truth has been demonstrated that we have the benefit of clergy whose hearts are in their work, and who are determined, as far as in them lies, to show that the Church of England contains within her priesthood those who find their highest and holiest pleasure in devoting themselves to the temporal and spiritual welfare of God's poor; and who, by their devotion and self-denial, seek to bless the poorest in their fold, grace the Church to which they belong, and do valiant service to the Master they profess to serve."

LAW PROCEEDINGS.

The further examination of Dr. Lamson was taken at Bow-street on Monday, and was again adjourned.

The Chinaman who, while performing in a music-hall at Brighton, caused the death of a boy by the firing of a cannon, has been committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter.

Four young men, named Morewood, were charged on Monday with a violent assault on their brother, Mr. C. R. Morewood, of Alfreton-hall. They had been released on sureties of £500 each, but they did not appear before the magistrates, who ordered the bail to be estreated.

The Rev. G. Sanger, vicar of Carlton, who was arrested last week on a charge of having burnt down his church, was on Thursday brought from Northallerton Prison to Stokesby, where he was taken before a magistrate, and formally remanded till yesterday (Friday), when the case for the prosecution was to be opened.

The New Year brought into operation Lord Cairns's Conveyancing Act. In endeavouring to simplify and improve the practice of conveyancing, the Act sets forth various short forms which may be used in the sale, settlement, or mortgage of land. The Act also vests in trustees and mortgagees divers powers commonly conferred on them by formal lengthy provisions in settlements, wills, and mortgages. Moreover, in its seventy-three sections the Act contains some substantive alterations of the law relating to real property.

Mr. Henry Jonas, described as a "gentleman," and living at The Limes, Fulham-road, was charged at the Hammersmith Police-court on Thursday with assaulting a constable. The case having been proved, Mr. Paget, the magistrate, sentenced the prisoner to twenty-one days' imprisonment, without hard labour. Subsequently an appeal was made to the magistrate to inflict a fine, on the ground that the prisoner was a solicitor, and had business to transact. Mr. Paget thereupon altered his decision to a fine of twenty sovereigns.

At Birmingham, on Wednesday evening, a boy named Joseph Payne, twelve years of age, persuaded Emily Webb, a little girl, to go out with him. They walked to the side of the canal, and it is alleged that the boy picked up the girl and deliberately threw her into the water. The child struggled, and would have sunk had it not been for a working man who came up at the time and rescued her. When conveyed home the girl was thoroughly exhausted. Payne was apprehended on Thursday and brought before the magistrates. When charged with the offence he merely replied that he was sorry. He was remanded, it being stated that the girl was too ill to leave her home.

Proof was laid before Sheriff Deas on Thursday in Glasgow, in the action at the instance of Archibald Park on behalf of his daughter, Mary Jane Park, against Jessie H. Wallace, matron of Lochburn Industrial Schools, Maryhill, concluding for £50 in the name of damages for the alleged ill-treatment of the girl during her stay in the school. Jane Buntine, a girl of 15, was the first witness. She deposed that Miss Wallace, one day in August last, said to the girl Park that her father had sent her to the school as he was tired of thrashing her, and that she would now begin and continue thrashing her till she too was tired. She then told the girl Park to lie over a chair. The girl refused. Miss Wallace then gave her thirteen lashes. Miss Greenhill and witness helped to hold the girl down. Miss Wallace next pulled the clothes off the girl, including her chemise and petticoat. Park went down on her knees, asking Miss Wallace's forgiveness, but Miss Wallace said, "No." Park got about fifty blows altogether. Her body, particularly the left side, was all red flesh. Park was quite naked. She was weak after the flogging. Park asked for a drink of water, saying she was dying. Miss Wallace, instead of giving the girl water, dashed it in her face, and ordered her to get a spray bath. Mary Jane Park, the female plaintiff, spoke to running away from school, and being taken back by two of the officials, who promised her that if she returned she would not be punished. That promise was ignored by Miss Wallace, who, she said, caused her to be held over a chair, and lashed her till she was out of breath, a good part of the flogging being on her bare body. She received about fifty lashes. She was afterwards put into a spray bath for twenty minutes, and next locked up in the surgery for four days. Part of the time she was kept on bread and water, and had to lie on the floor, as there was no bed. Miss Wallace told her that if she mentioned the flogging to her father she would get more. Other witnesses were examined, among them being Dr. Johnston, who deposed that the marks on the girl's person were strong proof of undue severity. He was not surprised that the flogging produced in the girl a depressed state of mind. To put the girl under a spray bath for ten minutes after a severe flogging with the leather tawse produced was gross inhumanity. The only witness for the defence was the defender herself. She said that of 220 girls in the school Park was the worst behaved. She had been warned that if she ran away she would be punished. The punishment in question did not exceed twelve stripes. It was without her knowledge that the girl got bread and water, and when she heard of it she ordered her to receive the regular diet of the house. The spray bath was used for sanitary purposes. The girl was not of purpose flogged naked, but in the struggle her clothing fell off. Judgment was deferred.

Mr. Magniac, M.P., at the Bedfordshire Quarter Sessions on Tuesday, stated to the Court that the owners of property in his own (Sharnbrook) side of the county are practically at the mercy of bands of navvies who are employed by the Midland Railway Company on Works in progress at Wymington. These men take possession of any parts they choose of the properties around them, and go about in bands of eighteen or twenty with guns and dogs, breaking down fences and railings, creating passages through hedges, and, as a matter of course, poaching, of which he would say nothing. The damage they did in his own neighbourhood was very great, and was becoming still more serious; but, far from making any complaint against the police, he had great pleasure in expressing to the Chief Constable, Colonel Josslyn, the appreciation with which the inhabitants of the neighbourhood regard the efficient services of the constables. The state of things in that locality was a disgrace to a civilised country. From 300 to 500 navvies were encamped upon a swampy ground, green water lying around in holes and ditches in front of their wretched houses, and there was not the slightest attempt at introducing sanitary arrangements. As to making religious provision for these people, such a thing did not seem to have entered into the minds of the Company, and one of the amusements of the boys and of many of the men was to assault the clergyman who went among them and to disfigure the building which gentlemen of the locality had erected there for Divine worship. On Monday he himself had tried to get to the place to see a man who had been seriously injured, but the state of filth and mud was such that he found it impossible to do so. Again, the medical attendance was complained of, and the fact was that the object seemed to be to get these men together and get as much work as possible out of them, their moral or religious comfort being, apparently, far from the thoughts of the Company. It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. Magniac, seconded by Mr. J. Howard, M.P., that the Chief Constable communicate upon the matter with the Midland Railway Company and with the rural sanitary authority (Wellingborough Union).

Sir Stafford Northcote presided on Tuesday at the Devonshire Quarter Sessions, at which a discussion took place with regard to the power the magistrates have over the police. At the last Sessions there was a warm controversy in consequence of the Deputy Chief Constable having, whilst the Chief Constable was from the county, inflicted a fine upon a Superintendent of Police simply because he addressed a business letter to the Chief when he was informed that the officer was out of the county, and that the Deputy was in charge. It was then pointed out that the Chief Constable, and in his absence the Deputy, had absolute power to fine those under them. It was now proposed that the Chief Constable should make quarterly reports to the Justices of cases in which he had, during the quarter, suspended, fined, reduced, or dismissed constables, and give reasons for actions he had taken. It was argued that the report should not be publicly presented to the Sessions, as the publication of the names of policemen who were fined would be a greater punishment than the fine itself. Sir John Phear pointed out that the Court had no power to require the Chief Constable to report to any other authority than themselves. Sir Stafford Northcote said the whole question of the relation of the magistrates and the Chief Constable was no doubt important. The Act stated that the Chief Constable should have the control of the force subject to the lawful orders he might receive from the Justices in Quarter and General Sessions, and the rules established for the government of the force. Surely it was lawful for the Court to order the Chief Constable to make his report in such manner as the Court might direct—make it, for instance, to the Clerk of the Peace, the Police Committee, the Chairman, or any other person whom they might designate in the interest of the efficiency and the discipline of the force. They should be very careful before they made a rule that would bring every instance of every fin inflicted by the Chief Constable before the whole Court, and make it the subject of general discussion. He would suggest a reference back to the Committee, to see if they could not attain their object in some other way. The result of the discussion was that by 39 against 27 it was decided that the Constable should make a quarterly report to the Police Committee of all punishments inflicted upon the men under him.

A correspondent writes from Leek, Staffordshire, under Wednesday's date :—

A striking instance of the fallibility of judges and juries, and of the danger of relying too implicitly upon circumstantial evidence or unsupported sworn testimony, has just come to light near Leek. On the 29th of January, 1880, two respectable Rushton farmers, named Samuel Clowes and Henry Johnson, were sentenced at the Staffordshire Assizes, by Mr. Justice Bowen, to ten years' penal servitude for "wilfully, maliciously, and feloniously wounding Isaac Brooks, farmer and stonemason, of Rushton, near Leek, on the 4th of December, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm." The evidence given by Brooks was to the effect that he and the prisoners, together with a man named Sherratt (who was acquitted) were together at a rent dinner, and the four walked together on their way to their respective homes for a considerable distance. Brooks then left them, and they wished him good night in a most friendly manner. On nearing home, Brooks stated that three men jumped out of a hedge, and while two held him, the third mutilated his person, wounding him severely. He swore positively to Johnson and Clowes, but was not quite certain as to Sherratt. The trial lasted four hours, and in passing sentence, his Lordship said "the prisoners had been convicted of a very barbarous and brutal crime." A widespread feeling existed in the neighbourhood that the conviction was unjust, and the utmost sympathy was felt for the families of the two men, who were reduced from comfort to actual pauperism. Since the trial, Brooks has been in bad health and wasted considerably. On Saturday morning last he died, leaving a full confession that the two men were innocent, that no outrage was committed, and that the wound was self-inflicted with a view to extort a large sum of money from the men or their friends. Brooks was buried to-day, and the greatest difficulty was experienced in finding even hired men to carry his remains to Rushton churchyard. The written confession is to be laid before the Home Secretary to-morrow, and it is hoped that the victims of this terrible plot will soon be at liberty. Clowes, who has a wife and nine children, is seriously ill in Chatham prison, and he says if he is not soon released he believes he shall die. The affair has created a profound sensation in Leek and for many miles round.

THE COURT.

The Prince of Wales, who, with Colonel Teesdale, stayed at Cumberland Lodge on Wednesday night as the guest of Prince and Princess Christian, went out pheasant shooting on Thursday for the first time this season in Windsor Forest. The Prince, accompanied by the Ranger and others, drove to Smith's-beat, in the vicinity of the southern end of Queen Anne's-ride, and shot over the well-stocked coverts between Holly-grove, the residence of Colonel the Hon. A. Liddell, and Cumberland Lodge. Much of the park was very swampy, and a strong south-westerly breeze swept across the forest during the day. The Prince, however, had some capital sport.

The Queen, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, and the Marquis of Lorne attended Divine service at Whippingham Church on Sunday morning.

On Sunday morning the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, accompanied by the guests of their Royal Highnesses, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the household, were present at Divine service at Sandringham Church.

The Duke of Cambridge, with other distinguished guests who had been staying at Berkeley Castle, had some excellent sport in Lord Fitzhardinge's coverts on Wednesday. The weather was fine, and the sportsmen shot through the coverts known as the Grove, Withy-bed, Fowler's Plantations, the Moat, and Oakleaze Withy-bed. The Moat yielded most sport, the birds rising well, and at the close of the day 420 pheasants, besides ground game, had been bagged. The shooting party—the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Fitzhardinge, Lord Romney, Captain Fellowes, Captain Thornton, the Hon. Major Byng, and Colonel Bateson—lunched at Alkington, where they were joined by Lady Fitzhardinge, Lady Romney, and others.

Stained Glass. — The Royal establishment of Mayer and Co., of Munich, whose London show-rooms are at 149, New Bond-street, submit, free of charge, designs for any windows in contemplation. Their works are executed in accordance with the style of architecture, in very best and richest pot-metal glass, or, if desired, with enamel and perspective drawings like in the windows of the Cathedrals of London, Glasgow, Cologne, and others.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sir C. Dilke distributed the prizes to the Chelsea Company of the South Middlesex Rifles on Thursday night, and in some remarks to those present urged that it was the duty of every man who could afford the time to join the Volunteer force.

On Thursday morning at the Eckington Collieries, Derbyshire, Thomas Cunliffe got on to the chain for descending the shaft before the signal was given. He was caught by the machinery, one of his arms was torn away, his chest was smashed, and he was fearfully crushed. He died soon after he was released. At the Birchwood Colliery in the same district, George Shipman, while at his work, was crushed to death under a weight of several tons of bind which fell on him from the roof.

Early on Thursday morning a fire broke out at 341, Gell-street, Sheffield, the residence of Mr. Peter Turner, draper, which resulted in the death of a little girl, aged three years.

The sale of the library at Hamilton Palace, which was formed by Mr. Beckford, is announced for June next.

There was a gathering of members of the Church and Stage Guild at the Neumeyer Hall, Bloomsbury, on Thursday evening, when a selection of vocal and instrumental music was performed and recitations were given. Amongst those who contributed to the enjoyment of the reunion were Miss Florence Marryatt, Mr. and Mrs. Sewell Southgate, Mrs. Royce, and Mr. Florian Horner. Several clergymen were present and a fair contingent of the "profession."

On the arrival of the Scotch express at Darlington at 2.30 a.m. on Thursday morning, two boys named John and William Hamilton, aged respectively ten and fourteen, were found hanging on to a brake beneath one of the carriages. They had travelled in that manner from Edinburgh, a distance of about 160 miles, and stated that it had been their intention to go to London.

An artisan at Burnley on Tuesday morning entered the bedroom of his landlady and cut her throat, her two children being in bed with her at the time.

A man named Saunders, residing in Shouldham-street, Marylebone, attempted on Saturday to murder his wife, who escaped, but a charwoman was shot dead, and the man afterwards shot himself. A coroner's inquest resulted in a verdict of insanity on the part of the man.

A man, who was in custody for theft, hung himself in a cell of the Manchester Police-station on Friday.

The number of ascertained wrecks during the past year in all parts of the world was 2,039, and the total estimated value of property lost £280,000,000, of which British and Colonial property is reckoned at £180,000,000 sterling.

On Thursday the sloop *Trotter*, from Gloucester, came into collision with one of the deep-water piers of the Severn Bridge, which crosses the Severn at Sharpness, in twenty-one spans. The collision was so violent that the vessel immediately sank, and a sailor named White was drowned.

The deaths are announced of Admiral Russell Eliott, aged 80; Colonel D. W. Pack-Beresford, formerly M.P. for Carlow county; General Brook Taylor; and of Miss Charlotte Clive, a niece of the great Lord Clive.

A new coffee tavern was opened in Rochester-row, Westminster, on Monday, on which occasion Cardinal Manning spoke with great earnestness in favour of such institutions.

The death is announced of Lieutenant-General the Hon. J. W. Macdonald, C.B., private secretary and equerry to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, which occurred on Wednesday at St. Leonard's-on-Sea. The deceased general had been in impaired health for a considerable time past, and last winter went to Cannes. He was the second son of Godfrey, third Lord Macdonald, by his wife Louisa Maria, daughter of Mr. Farley Edsir, and was born the 31st of October, 1810. He married, the 26th of September, 1859, Hon. Elizabeth Nina Blake, daughter of Joseph Henry, third Lord Wallscourt, by whom he leaves issue George Godfrey, recently page of honour to Her Majesty, now in his 20th year; and Mary Selina Honoria, now in her 16th year. The late general entered the Army as ensign in the 1st Life Guards in 1829, became lieutenant 1834, captain June, 1837, major 1849, and lieutenant-colonel 1854, when he went on half-pay. For upwards of thirty years he had been equerry to the Duke of Cambridge, and in July, 1856, was appointed private secretary to his Royal Highness Commanding-in-Chief. He accompanied the Duke as aide-at-camp in the expedition to Turkey in 1854. He served throughout the Eastern campaign, including the battles of Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman, in which he had twice a horse shot, the siege of Sebastopol, and sortie of the 26th of October. For his services during the war he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath, and a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and received the 5th class of the Medjidie, the Turkish medal, and the Crimean medal with four clasps.

The Admiralty have received a detailed report of the circumstances attending the death of Capt. Brownrigg and several of the crew of Her Majesty's ship *London* on December 3. It appears that Captain Brownrigg had left the *London* in the steam pinnace to inspect the boats employed in the suppression of the slave-trade and the depôts in Pember Island As he was proceeding to the depôt at Funzi, and was passing through Kokota Gap, at about 9 a.m., a dhow was sighted ahead, coming towards the boat, flying French colours. The events which followed are related in the report of Acting-Commander Somerville Goodridge :—

Captain Brownrigg went alongside without hailing or stopping the dhow, the wind being light and the vessel scarcely forging ahead. He took the tiller himself, and was alone, with the exception of his steward (a Goanese) and a native interpreter, in the after part, which is separated from the rest of the boat by a standing canopy, over which one has to climb to get fore or aft. As the coxswain was standing on the stem of the boat, in the act of making fast with the hook-rope, he caught sight of eight or ten men crouched in the bottom of the boat with guns at the "ready" position. He sang out to the captain aft, when they rose up and fired; he flung the hook at them, and closed with one, both falling overboard together. The Arabs, the number of whom is variously estimated at from fifteen to twenty-five, then jumped into the pinnace with drawn swords and clubbed guns. As their first fire seems to have killed one man (a stoker) outright, mortally wounded another, and severely wounded two others of the boat's crew, the Arabs found but little difficulty in driving the rest, unarmed as they were, overboard. Captain Brownrigg and his steward were the only two left, and both were in the after part of the boat. He appears to have seized a rifle at the first volley and fired, knocking an Arab over; but before he could reload three or four of them rushed aft to attack him, getting on the top of the canopy and at the sides, but he, clubbing his rifle, kept them at bay, fighting with a determination that has filled the survivors, who were then in the water unable to get on board, with the greatest admiration, they describing him as fighting like a lion. He knocked two of his assailants over, but was unable to get at them properly owing to the structure of the boat, he being in the stern sheets, whilst they were above him on the canopy cutting at him with their long swords, but fearing to jump down and close with him. As he knocked one over, another took his place. The first wound that seems to have hampered him in the gallant fight was a cut across the forehead, from which the blood, pouring over his face, partially blinded him. He was then cut across the hands, the fingers being severed from the left and partially so from the right one; and, badly wounded in both elbows, he could no longer hold the rifle. He then appears to have tried to get hold of any of his foes or of anything wherewith to fight on; but, blinded as he was, his efforts were in vain. He fought thus for upwards of twenty minutes, keeping his face to his assailants, and having no thought, or making no effort, to seek safety by jumping overboard. At length he was shot through the heart and fell dead, having, besides the fatal one, received no less than twenty wounds, most of them of a severe, and two of a mortal nature.

The steward saved his life by lying in the pinnace and pretending to be dead. After the dhow had sailed away, the stoker, who had been in the water during the time, went on board the pinnace again, got up steam, and picked up the survivors who had swam to the beach. The dhow was afterwards captured, and eight Arabs are in custody charged with being the murderers of Captain Brownrigg.

The *Cork Herald* says :—"It is stated that up to the present no will of Mr. Francis Wise, the distiller, who recently died in Cork, has been found, and that in such an advent his huge personal property will devolve in equal shares, one to Mr. Francis Wise Low, of Killshane, county Tipperary, and the other to the Gubbins family, as the issue of his deceased sisters, Mrs. Low and Mrs. Gubbins. Assuming that the case is one of intestacy, the freehold estates of the deceased would come to Mr. Low and Mr. Joseph Gubbins, of Kilrush, county Limerick. Of course there is a tendency in the generality of instances to exaggerate the amount of the assets of a person like Mr. Wise; but from what we learn—and we believe with fair accuracy—the capital will come up to £3,000,000 sterling. He is said to have had an investment of £800,000 in the Government Funds, and a sum to his credit in the bank of £100,000. The interest of his English funded property would be £24,000 a year. Then his income from land and securities in land so far back as 1870 was estimated at £30,000 a year. His holding in American securities, into which he bought in depressed times, were at least £200,000. Mr. Wise lived in an inexpensive and unostentatious manner, and while he was most generous during his lifetime to his relatives and friends, and also gave freely and often munificently to purposes connected with religion and charity, the accumulation of his savings must have been enormous, and it would, therefore, be no wonder that the state of his affairs will prove that he was the wealthiest man in Ireland, and equalled in this respect by only a very few in England or Scotland."

As the first train from Brighton to London on Monday morning was rounding a sharp curve between Caterham Junction and East Croydon, a man, apparently a navvy, deliberately placed himself upon the metals in front of the train and was cut to pieces.

Mr. Ralph Bernal Osborne died on Wednesday night at Bestwood Lodge, near Nottingham, the seat of his son-in-law, the Duke of St. Albans. Mr. Osborne, who was born in 1812, was the son of Mr. Ralph Bernal, formerly M.P. for Rochester and Chairman of Committees in the House of Commons. He was educated at the Charterhouse and at Trinity College, Cambridge. He held a commission for a time in the 71st Light Infantry, and afterwards in the Royal Fusiliers, and on retiring from the army entered Parliament for Wycombe in 1841. His connection with that borough ended in 1847, when Mr. Osborne was elected for Middlesex. His next constituency was Dover, which he represented from 1857 to 1859, when he was defeated at the general election. He was, however, at once returned for Liskeard, but resigned the seat in 1865. For two years, from 1866 to 1868, he was member for Nottingham, and was returned for the borough of Waterford in 1870, for which place he sat during Mr. Gladstone's first Ministry until the general election of 1874, when he was placed at the bottom of the poll. Since that time Mr. Osborne has made no attempt to re-enter Parliament. From December, 1852, to February, 1858, he was Secretary to the Admiralty. In 1844 he married Catharine Isabella, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Osborne, Bart., of Newtown Anner, county Tipperary, and The Kincor, county Waterford, when he assumed the name of Osborne. He was Deputy-Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace of the counties of Waterford and Tipperary. Although a Liberal, Mr. Osborne frequently took an independent course in politics.

The first meeting of the year of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute took place on Monday, at 7, Adelphi Terrace. The Honorary Secretary, Captain F. Petrie, announced that the Institute, founded to investigate philosophical and scientific questions, especially those said to militate against the truth of Revelation, had enrolled 122 members during the year, of which 53 were resident in America and the Colonies; it was further stated that during the past year many of its American members had combined and founded the "American Institute of Christian Philosophy," adopting the same objects and the whole scheme of the Victoria Institute, but while taking this step they had decided to keep up their individual connection with the Institute in England. After this a paper was read on "Theism."

The progress of the new Hôtel des Postes is deserving of mention. The works, which, when some months ago we saw them, were still below ground, have now, with the rapidity for which building in Paris is famous, reached the first story, and some idea of the general appearance of the building can be formed. The new Post-office will be a large quadrilateral. There are to be three stories above the ground-floor, which latter is to be devoted entirely to the service of the public, and the yard to the mail-carts. On the first floor the letters are to be sorted; on the second, delivered to the carts. It is on this floor that the officials are to be lodged. On the third floor are the books and documents, and the store-rooms. Below ground will be situated the stables, the stamping-rooms, and the pneumatic apparatus. A double-balance lift is to place all the floors in communication. A gallery, some sixty yards long, on the ground-floor, will contain ranged on each side, in addition to the telegraph bureau, all the various othrr departments for the public convenience—offices for registered letters, sale of stamps, &c., and an information bureau. The new Post-office, it may be remarked, when completed, will serve alone for the Paris correspondence; the country and foreign service will then be transferred to the residence of the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.—*Builder*.

The following account of an attempted lottery fraud has been received from Havana:—"On the 24th ult. a telegram purporting to come from Madrid was published in Havana reporting that a certain ticket had drawn the capital prize of 500,000dols. in the National Lottery. Telegraphic inquiries were made by the banking firm of Messrs. Borjes and Co., which were apparently answered to the effect that the despatch was genuine. Thereupon the ticket was negotiated, the payees purchasing a cable transfer on Paris for 1,000,000f. It is now ascertained that all the despatches were forgeries. A large part of the money has been recovered, and there is reason to believe that the swindlers will not get the 1,000,000f. It is hoped, moreover, that the whole of the remainder of the money will be recovered. The affair has caused great excitement among the business community, but the resources and credit of Messrs. Borjes prevented any financial disturbance."

By the death at Bath last Friday of Mr. Stewart Erskine Rolland, of Dibden, on the edge of the New Forest, the political school founded by the late David Urquhart, some time M.P. for Stafford, has ceased to exist. Like Urquhart, his disciple and lieutenant, Rolland was, in truth, a remarkable man. Proud of his descent in the twenty-second degree from Robert the Bruce, and a lineal chief of the Erskines, he loved his native Scotland, despite all his cosmopolitanism, with a consuming love. Possessed of a fair patrimony, he entered the army at an early age, naturally joining the regiment commanded by his father's friend, Colin Campbell, but resigned his commission in despair of active service, after a few years' soldiering, to gratify his passion for foreign travel. Thenceforth he did everything and saw everything worth seeing on the face of the globe. But his predilection was for the East; and, in course of time, he studied its lore and mastered many of its tongues. He gave valuable help to Layard during his discoveries at Nineveh; but the friendship thus formed was so rudely and heartlessly broken, that the future ambassador to Constantinople dared not face the outraged Celt's challenge to mortal combat. Owing to this break in his life, Rolland cast himself adrift from European civilisation, and for a considerable period lived with Arabs, and, amongst a nation of horsemen, was known as "the wild horseman" of the desert. He even spent a whole year in the tents of the Jezedis, or devil-worshippers; and, during their journeyings, was permitted to witness their mysterious rites, and, in return for their hospitality, entertained their great sheik in state at Meshed. But the current of his life was again changed when he met Urquhart for the first time while seeking shelter from a thunderstorm at the base of the Great Sphinx, and recognised in him a master mind, and, after the fashion of the East, a leader and a prophet. By him Rolland was imbued with that passionate hatred of Russia, partly in the interest of human freedom and of his own country, and partly in that of Islam, which characterised his after life. Formally elected chief of the Circassians towards the close of the Crimean War, he had, in secret combination with the Poles, planned a simultaneous attack on Russian power on both flanks while the empire was engaged with the Anglo-French forces in front; but the fall of Sebastopol and the sudden peace that followed, put an end to the project for ever. During the late Russo-Turkish war he founded the Albanian League, which, but for his broken health and declining years, would, under his leadership, have proved a formidable barrier against the Russian advance. Under his roof and from his hand any Pole, Turk, Circassian, Kurd, Turkoman, or other enemy of Russia, found shelter or help. In order to indulge his Russophobia he became part owner of *Vanity Fair*, and for years contributed to it a series of articles signed "R." of singular ability, intended to direct the minds of our public men to the insidious foreign policy of Russia. For his writings he declined, on principle, any remuneration, as he regarded such work as a part of his mission. But he had another enemy besides Russia—gout in its most terrible form. From this he suffered a living martyrdom with heroic fortitude. Ultimately the malady, there can be no doubt, attacked him in the throat. He met his death with all the calmness of a brave nature.—*The World*.

The will (dated June 9, 1869), with two codicils (dated December 19, 1879, and February 3, 1881), of Mr. Henry Sykes Thornton, of Battersea-rise and Birchin-lane, the senior partner in the bank of Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., who died on November 29 last, was proved on the 31st ult. by his brother-in-law, Mr. William Dealtry, late of the Colonial Office, the personal estate being returned at £330,085 0s. 1d. The testator leaves his horses, carriages, household plate, books, pictures, and effects to his wife, Emily Thornton, with an immediate legacy of £25,000; and the residue of his property is left in trust to pay the income to his wife for life. At his wife's decease the whole of the property, with the real estates at Battersea-rise, is to be divided in trust among his daughters and the children of his deceased son, the married daughters bringing into account the funds arising from or comprised in marriage settlements, and the son's children the real estates in Yorkshire and Derbyshire settled upon his marriage.

Mr. William Harrison Ainsworth, the novelist, died on Tuesday morning at his residence in St. Mary's-road, Reigate, in his 77th year. In him there has passed away a novelist who at one time might have boasted that he had as many readers as Dickens, and who had but few equals as an antiquarian. The eldest son of a solicitor, he was born at Manchester in 1805, and was educated at the Free Grammar School in that city. In his 16th year he was articled to an attorney; but it is tolerably certain that he never intended to make the law his profession. While in his teens he wrote and published his romance of *Sir John Cheverton*, which elicited so much praise from Sir Walter Scott that the young author, who at this time was finishing his term with Mr. Jacob Phillips, of the Inner Temple, determined to devote himself exclusively to literature. In 1834 appeared the first of his more elaborate novels, *Rookwood*, in which Dick Turpin makes a conspicuous figure. Its success was very great, owing in great measure to the spirit with which the apocryphal ride to York was described. Encouraged in this way to make heroes of malefactors, he turned his attention to Jack Sheppard, and at the beginning of 1839 the first number of his novel relating to that worth appeared in *Bentley's Miscellany*. His hopes must have been more than realised. *Jack Sheppard* took the town by storm. It was read and re-read with avidity by all classes, especially the unlettered. Eight different versions of it were played on the stage, one of them furnishing Mrs. Keeley with the means of achieving a triumph not to be effaced from the memories of those who witnessed it. The illustrative sketches contributed to the volumes by George Cruikshank certainly did something to intensify this *furore*. But the voice of criticism was not silent in regard to the questionable effect which such compositions might produce; and Mr. Ainsworth, having reason to fear that *Rookwood* and *Jack Sheppard* might serve as a stimulus to crime, abandoned what had come to be known as the robbers' school of romance. In 1840 he succeeded Dickens as editor of *Bentley's Miscellany*, but retired from the post at the end of the following year, to establish the magazine issued under his name. In 1845 he became proprietor and editor of the *New Monthly Magazine*. Meanwhile he had begun to paint that long series of pictures of the past on which his fame chiefly rests—*Crichton*, *Guy Fawkes*, *Old St. Paul's*, *The Miser's Daughter*, *Windsor Castle*, *St. James's*, *Lancashire Witches*, *The Star Chamber*, *The Flitch of Bacon*, *Ovingdean Grange*, *The Constable of the Tower*, *The Lord Mayor of London*, *Cardinal Pole*, *John Law*, &c. In 1854 Mr. Ainsworth became the proprietor of *Bentley's Miscellany*, in which one of his least fortunate essays, *The Spendthrift*, was originally published. It was not simply as a novelist that he became known to fame. In early life, under the *nom de plume* of *Cheviot Tichebourne*, he brought out a volume of songs, dedicating them to Charles Lamb. Many of them are scattered over his prose with excellent effect; but the best proof of his poetical gifts is to be found in his *Combat of the Thirty*, founded upon the old Breton legend.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 26, at Ryde, Isle of Wight, the wife of Colonel MACLEAN, Asst.-Adjutant-General, Head-Quarter Staff, Ireland, of a son.

Dec. 29, at Christ Church Vicarage, Lichfield, the wife of the Rev. J. CHARLES COX, of a son.

Dec. 30, at Knighton, Leicester, the wife of the Rev. JAMES WENT, M.A., Head Master of Leicester School, of a son.

Dec. 30, at 57, Rutland-gate, the wife of the Hon. R. DAWSON, of a daughter.

On New Year's-Eve, at S. John's, Coventry, the wife of the Rev. G. CUFFE, of a daughter.

Jan. 1, at Holkham, the Countess of LEITRIM, of a daughter.

Jan. 2, at 41, Berkeley-square, the wife of W. H. GLADSTONE, Esq., M.P., of a daughter.

Jan. 2, at the Grammar School House, Sevenoaks, the wife of DANIEL MAULE BIRKETT, Esq., of a son.

Jan. 2, at 53, Gloucester-street, S.W., Lady ARABELLA ROMILLY, of a daughter.

Jan. 3, at 17, Chester-terrace, Eaton-square, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel HOBART TYLER, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 15, at Christ Church Cathedral, Zanzibar, HENRY COLE, of C.M.S. Mpwapwa, East Coast Africa, to HENRIETTA (ETTA), second daughter of the late JAMES MILLINGTON, of London.

Dec. 22, at St. Peter's, Bayswater, GEORGE E. S. FRYER, of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law, youngest son of the Rev. H. E. Fryer, formerly of Burley Wood, Hants, to ANNA MATILDA, elder daughter of EDWARD GEORGE BARR, 70, Holland-park, W.

Dec. 28, at Mangotsfield Church, Gloucestershire, the Rev. ALLAN CAMERON ALFORD, M.A., Rector-Designate of Aston-Sandford, Bucks, to MARY, third daughter of CHAS. MARSH LORY, of Staple-hill Lodge, Staple-hill, near Bristol, formerly of St. Keverne, Cornwall.

Dec. 28, at Hempstead, Norfolk, the Rev. JOHN PAGET DAVIES, Rector of Street, Sussex, to LUCY SARAH, third daughter of the Rev. JOHN EYRE YONGE, Rector of Hempstead-with-Lessingham, Norfolk, and Rural Dean.

Dec. 28, at Stone Church, near Dartford, Kent, Commander JOHN PAKENHAM PIPON, R.N., of H.M.S. *Penelope*, youngest son of the late Colonel Pipon, of Noirmont, Jersey, to ALICE ELIZABETH, elder daughter of MURRAY M. JOHNSON, Esq., of Stone Castle, Dartford, and niece of Admiral Johnson, R.N., of Southsea, Hants.

Dec. 28, at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, PERCY HUGHES HEWITT, late Captain 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers), to ROSIE, eldest daughter of JAMES WADDELL, Esq., of 126, Queen's-gate.

Dec. 29, at Otley, Suffolk, Professor OSBORNE REYNOLDS, of Owens College, Manchester, to ANNIE CHARLOTTE, eldest daughter of the Rev. HENRY WILKINSON, Rector of Otley.

Dec. 29, at St. John's, East Dulwich, the Rev. G. C. ALLEN, M.A., of Dulwich College, son of George Allen, of Old Windsor, Berks, to ADELAIDE CATHERINE, daughter of the late ROBERT GRAY, of 170, Camberwell-grove, S.E.

Dec. 29, at S. Saviour's Church, Eastbourne, the Rev. SILVANUS KEY BORTON, M.A., Warden of S. Saviour's Choir School, and only son of the Rev. W. K. Borton, M.A., Honorary Canon of Rochester Cathedral, to MARY PAULINA CAROLINE, eldest surviving daughter of REGINALD J. GRAHAM, Esq., J.P., of Edmond Castle, Cumberland, and of Eastbourne.

Dec. 31, at Christ Church, Mayfair, HENRY CHAMBERLAIN, Esq., Lieutenant R.N. (retired list), son of the late Rear Admiral Chamberlain, to ISABEL ELLEN, younger daughter of the Rev. L. PARKIN, of Ingatestone, and Rural Dean.

Jan. 2, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, FLORENCE MAUD, elder daughter of the late JOHN LART, of Plinlimmon, Hastings, to NEWMAN MAYO, youngest son of JOHN OGLE, B.A., of Sevenoaks.

Jan. 3, at St. Andrew's, Lambeth, WILLIAM HENRY DINES, B.A., Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, only surviving son of George Dines, of Hersham, Walton-on-Thames, to CATHERINE EMMA, youngest daughter of the Rev. FREDERIC TUGWELL, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Lambeth.

Jan. 3, at the parish church of High Laver, Essex, the Rev. E. ARMITAGE SANDFORD, Vicar of Denford-cum-Ringstead, Northants, to MIRA ISABELLA, eldest daughter of the Rev. MANDEVILLE RODWELL, Rector of High Laver.

Jan. 4, at Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, by the Rev. Stephen Hawtrey, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. A. Hodges, the father, and the Rev. H. C. Hodges, the brother of the bridegroom, CHAS. HENRY HODGES, of Rugby, Esq., to SYBIL HAMPDEN, daughter of the Rev. MONTAGUE HAWTREY, Rector of Rimpton, Somerset, and Prebendary of Wells.

DEATHS.

Nov. 24, EVA CHARLOTTE REEVE WYNNE, only daughter of the Rev. Robert Wynne, Vicar of Scalford, Leicestershire, aged 28.

Dec. 13, suddenly, at Secunderabad, aged 40 years, FREDERIC EDMUND SPRY, Major 38th Madras N.I., second son of the late Rev. A. B. Spry, Vicar of Stanford, Norfolk, and Senior Chaplain, Bengal.

Dec. 17, at Malta House, Grosvenor-street, Jersey, the result of a carriage accident, ALICE, wife of J. H. DOBELL, and daughter of the late Richard Ashworth, Esq., J.P., of Lea Bank, Cloughfold, Lancashire, aged 35.

Dec. 21, at Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire, HARRIET DEANE, widow of JAMES HAMILTON PARKE, Esq., late of Stonewall Park, Kent, and Woodside, Old Windsor, Berks, and eldest daughter of the late Rev. Charles Sleech Hawtrey, M.A., Vicar of Whitston, Monmouthshire, aged 74.

Dec. 24, at Teignmouth, ROSE ADELA, youngest daughter of the late Rev. EDMOND STRONG, M.A., Rector of Clyst St. Mary, Devon.

On the Feast of St. Stephen, at the Vicarage of St. John the Divine, Menstone-in-Wharfedale, Leeds, CORNELIA JUSTIN, wife of the Rev. F. A. WALKER, B.D., Curate-in-Charge.

Dec. 27, in Wellington-square, Hastings, KATHARINE, daughter of the late Rev. FRANCIS CLIFTON, of Alverstoke, Hants, and for nearly 30 years the Lady Governess of the Royal Naval Female School, Isleworth, in her 90th year.

Dec. 27, at Weymouth, ISABELLA, widow of the late Sir T. C. STYLE, Bart., and eldest surviving daughter of the late Sir George Cayley Bart., aged 84.

Dec. 28, the Hon. JAMES HUNTER FORBES, of Brux, Aberdeenshire, in his 49th year.

On Holy Innocents' Day, at 53, Queen's-gardens, Hyde-park, of diphtheria, after only a few days' illness, HUBERT HORTON, youngest child of RICHARD HORTON SMITH, Esq., Q.C., aged 6 years.

Dec. 28, at his residence, Fenagh House, county Carlow, suddenly, after acute gout, DENNIS WILLIAM PACK-BERESFORD, Esq., late of the Royal Artillery, second and only surviving son of the late Major-General Sir Dennis Pack, K.C.B., and the late Lady Elizabeth Louisa, his wife, daughter of the first Marquis of Waterford, aged 63.

Dec. 29, at 20, Talbot-road, Bayswater, LETITIA MARY, youngest daughter of the late Hon. and Rev. RICHARD FITZGERALD KING, in her 60th year.

Dec. 30, at Croydon, ANNE GILBERT, relict of the late Rev. DAVID PERKINS, D.D., Vicar of Dawlish, and eldest and last surviving child of the late Sir Walter Roberts, Bart., of Roberts Cove, co. Cork, and Courtlands, Devon, aged 81.

Dec. 30, at his residence, 51, Englefield-road, London, N., WILLIAM S. D. UPJOHN, of the Hon. Mr. Justice Chitty's (late Rolls) chambers, aged 57.

Dec. 30, after a few days' illness, at the house of her brother-in-law, James Dickinson, Esq., Q.C., Burnham Grove, Bucks, SUSANNAH, the dearly-beloved wife of the Right Hon. Sir RICHARD MALINS, aged 77.

Dec. 30, at 21, Sutherland-place, Bayswater, of apoplexy, with paralysis, Lieut.-Col. CHARLES WILLIAM THOMPSON, late 58th Regt., and eldest son of the late Lieut.-Col. Thompson, 27th Inniskillings, who served throughout the Peninsula and at Waterloo, aged 64 years.

Dec. 31, at 24, Lower Seymour-street, London, HARRIET SOPHIA TOMKINSON, widow of the Rev. Henry Tomkinson, of Reaseheath, Cheshire, aged 79 years.

Dec. 31, at 107, Eaton-place, London, GRENVILLE HAMPDEN, Esq., J.P., D.L., third son of the late Right Rev. R. D. Hampden, Bishop of Hereford.

Jan. 1, at 71, Warrington-crescent, Maida-vale, London, ELIZABETH, widow of the late Rev. ARTHUR RIGG, formerly Principal of the Chester Diocesan Training College, in the 71st year of her age.

Jan. 2, at Freshford, near Bath, HARRIETT HAMMOND, widow of the late Rev. Jno. Hammond, Rector of Priston, Somerset, and youngest daughter of the late Samuel Lane, Esq., of North Runcton, Norfolk, aged 89 years.

Jan. 4, at Bolton Hall, the Lady BOLTON, aged 57 years.

LONDON THEATRES, &c.

COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE ROYAL.—This Evening, at 7, LITTLE BO PEEP, LITTLE BOY BLUE, AND THE LITTLE OLD WOMAN THAT LIVED IN A SHOE: The marvellous Girards, Messrs. T. Sennett, J. G. Bradshaw, H. Henbrick, &c.; Misses Clara Thompson, Nellie Claremont, Alice Holt, Emily Allcroft, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—This Evening, at 7, ROBINSON CRUSOE: Messrs. Arthur Roberts, Harry Jackson, Harry Nicholls, James Fawn, John D'Auban, Charles Lauri, jun., De Voy, Le Clerq, &c.; Mesdames Fanny Leslie, Amalia, D'Auban, Sisters Mario, De Vere, &c.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, TWO ROSES: Mr. Digby Grant, Mr. Irving; Mr. Howe, Mr. Terriss, Mr. G. Alexander; and Our Mr. Jenkins, Mr. David James; Miss Emery, Miss Ewell, Mrs. Pauncefort, and Miss Helen Mathews. At 7.30, THE CAPTAIN OF THE WATCH: Mr. Terriss, Miss Louisa Payne, and Miss Helen Mathews.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 7.45, PLOT AND PASSION. At 10, A LESSON.

ADELPHI. — This Evening, at 8, TAKEN FROM LIFE.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, THE LIGHTS O' LONDON. To be preceded, at 7, by A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—To-night, at 7.5, Operetta; 7.20, Farce; 8.30. ALADDIN: Misses Farran, Vaughan, Gilchrist, Broughton, Hewett, &c.; Messrs. Terry, Royce, Dallas, Squire, &c.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, COUSIN DICK. At 8.20, THE SQUIRE.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.30, A BLIGHTED BEING. At 8.15, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER: Mrs. Stirling and Mr. J. Ryder.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—Every Evening, at 7.30, MARRIAGE BELLS. At 8.15, THE HALF-WAY HOUSE. Concluding with THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND HIM.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, AWAKING. At 8.45, ENGAGED.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—This Evening, PLUTO; or LITTLE ORPHEUS AND HIS LUTE. Preceded, at 7.45, by THE FISHERMAN'S DAUGHTER.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Every Evening, at 8, OLIVETTE. At 7.15, PARADISE VILLA.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.50, A HAPPY PAIR. At 8.40, THE COLONEL.

ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening at 8, THE MASCOTTE. At 7.30, SEEING YOU FROU.

CRITERION THEATRE. — Every Evening, at 8, WITHERED LEAVES. At 8.45, BRIGHTON.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, the new æsthetic opera, PATIENCE. Preceded by, at 8, MOCK TURTLES.

IMPERIAL THEATRE, Westminster.—This Day, at 3 and 7.30, MACFARLANE'S WILL. Reduced prices from the Royal Aquarium.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—This Evening at 8, the grand spectacular fairy opera, BLACK CROOK. Music by Mr. Fred Clay and Mons. G. Jacobi.

"ELECTRICITY IS LIFE."

MR. PULVERMACHER,

INVENTOR OF THE CELEBRATED

GALVANIC CHAIN-BANDS, BELTS, &c.

INVITES SUFFERERS from any of the following or other AILMENTS to closely examine and verify the genuineness of the following TESTIMONIALS selected from many recently obtained, so that a distinction may be drawn between those of Mr. PULVERMACHER and those of other Advertisers.

The bulk of the testimonials, too numerous to be inserted here, are published in a Pamphlet entitled "Galvanism Nature's Chief Restorer of Impaired Vital Energy," post free.

GALVANISM v. INDIGESTION and SLUGGISH LIVER.

"Ardingly College, Haywards Heath, 27th December, 1881.

"Gentlemen,—During last spring and the early part of the summer I suffered much from what my medical attendant specified as indigestion and a sluggish liver. At the beginning of August I procured one of your Galvanic Chain Bands and wore it during that month and September. As this is three months ago, and none of the symptoms have returned. I believe, and have every reason to hope, that my recovery is complete and permanent. You are quite at liberty to make what use you please of my letter—common justice demands it."—I am yours truly,

"(Rev.) H. THOMS.

"Messrs. J. L. Pulvermacher and Co."

GALVANISM v. GREAT WEAKNESS in LIMBS.

"The Bretby Collieries, near Burton-on-Trent, "Nov. 8, 1881.

"Dear Sir,—I am pleased at being able to say that the Galvanic Belt I obtained from you for John Gadsby, who met with such a serious accident at these collieries, has been of inestimable service to him. After one month's wear, instead of being a helpless cripple, he is now walking eight or more miles a day, and talks of work being shortly resumed. He desires me to express his gratitude for your kindness in supplying the Belt at a cheap rate. You may use any part of my letter for public benefit if you wish.—I am, yours truly, "GEO. PILKINGTON.

"Mr. J. L. Pulvermacher."

GALVANISM v. ACUTE RHEUMATISM and CHRONIC BRONCHITIS.

"85, Tarling-street, St. George's, E., Oct. 26, 1881.

"Dear Sir,—I am pleased to tell you that since wearing your Galvanic Chain Bands, for the arms I have never had the least return of the acute rheumatism, and I take the opportunity of thanking you for the short band for the throat. I suffer from chronic bronchitis of 20 years' standing, and every winter I wear your Chain Band, from which I always find perfect relief, and it never fails me.

"You may make what use you like of this letter, and I will answer any inquiries.—I am, dear Sir, yours gratefully, "B. A. KIPPAX.

"J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq."

FOR FURTHER TESTIMONIALS, both Medical and Private, see Pamphlet, "Galvanism: Nature's Chief Restorer of Impaired Vital Energy," post free on application to

J. L. PULVERMACHER'S GALVANIC ESTABLISHMENT,

194, REGENT STREET, London, W. (Nearly opposite Conduit-street)

NEW SADLER'S WELLS. — This Evening, at 6.30, AMY ROBSART. At 8.45, Pantomime, THE FORTY THIEVES: Messrs. R. Lyons, Moreland, Mortimer, Morelli, and F. Bursby, Master Grattan; Mesdames Caroline Parkes, Adelaide Stoneham, Lawrence, Lizzie Lilly and Emilie Grattan; Clown, Mr. Fred Evans.

SANGER'S GRAND NATIONAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Every Day, at Two and Seven o'clock, BLUEBEARD. The spectacular display in the marriage scene will by far eclipse any production ever previously submitted to the public, and the completeness of the whole affair will greatly surpass all former efforts.

SURREY THEATRE.—THIS EVENING at 7, Pantomime, MOTHER BUNCH; or, The Man with the Hunch. Mr. G. H. Macdermott, Albert and Edmonds Troupe, Lauraine Family, Messrs. Cruikshanks, Wilton, Mocedale, Wright, &c.; Mesdames Marie Loftus, Lizzie Beaumont, Blanche Fenmore, the Claremonts, Mdme. Sidonie.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.—This Evening, at 7, the grand new Pantomime, SINBAD THE SAILOR. Misses Rose Lee, Howes, Conway, Rayner, Gerard, Brunton, Hunt, and Lucy Millais; Messrs. Henry Nordblom, R. Wilmore, Ellis, Westbourne, Vincent, A. Glover, and John Barnum.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Daily during Next Week, GREAT CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME, THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD, produced under the direction of Mr. W. R. Osman and Mr. Oscar Barrett. Gorgeous Scenery and Transformation by Mr. F. Fenton. Music by Mr. Oscar Barrett. Characters by Paul Martinetti, Messrs. H. Proctor, W. Gresham, J. Francis, W. Blewitt, Don Lorenzo, G. Aytoun, the celebrated Zietzo, &c.; Misses Marie Longmore, Kate Newton, Behrens, Florence and Gertrude Fancourt, Beckett, Kate Heath, Haffa, Page, Lennon, &c. Principal Danseuse, Miss Lillie Lee. Harlequinade by Paul Martinetti and Troupe. Dresses by Mr. Stinchcombe. Limelight by Mr. A. Morgan. Ballet under direction of Mr. Paul Valentine. Assistant stage-manager, Mr. Heard. Seats, 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d., and 1s.

Admission to Palace One Shilling Daily (Saturday included), or by Season Ticket.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Pantomime Daily at 4, HOP O' MY THUMB, written by Frank W. Green. Produced by George Conquest, jun., who will play the giant, Ogriferous. Transformation, Ballet, and Palace set scenes by Grieve and Son; Grand Panorama, 160ft. long, "The Road to Ogreland," and other scenery, by Rogers and Son; Ballets by Mdme. Katti Lanner and National School for Dancing. The music by Meyer Lutz. Blondin, Niagara's Hero, on high rope, daily. Free seats everywhere. Free retiring and reading room.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Palace of Amusement.—Open 12, close 11.—NOTICE.—All Extra Charges are now abolished, and the price for admission to One and All Entertainments is One Shilling.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE, Argyll-street, Oxford-circus.—CHARLES HENGLER'S unrivalled EQUESTRIAN ENTERTAINMENT, Every Evening, at 7.30. GRAND MATINEES Daily, until further notice. Open at Two, commence at 2.30. Box-office open at the Cirque daily from Ten to Four.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC, open for four weeks only.—The institution having been sold, it will positively and finally close on the 21st January. Until then, a most varied and attractive programme will be presented daily, including new Musical, Optical, Magical, and Popular Scientific Entertainments, as well as a réchauffé of very many of those that have delighted its audiences during the last 20 years. The Institution remains open from 12 till 10, with a continuous series of Entertainments, and without any extra charges. Distributions of Gifts from the Christmas Tree to every juvenile visitor, on Wednesday afternoons. Admission 1s.; children under ten, 6d. Manager, Mr. James Howell.

LATEST NEWS.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 6.

The Viceroy has addressed a remonstrance to the Burmese Government at Mandalay with regard to the monopolies in force in Burmah.

MADEIRA, Jan. 6.

Messrs. Donald Currie and Company's Castle packet *Dublin Castle*, with the 2nd Battalion 60th Rifles from Natal, arrived here at eight p.m yesterday, and proceeded at midnight for Portsmouth, where she may be expected on the evening of the 10th inst.

VIENNA, January 6.

On account of the recent disturbance, the Imperial Government has decided upon despatching shortly to Southern Dalmatia military reinforcements, numbering in all 7,000 men, in order to effect the pacification of the Crivoscie district.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 6.

The *Messager Officiel* says, with regard to the Nizami mission to Berlin, that Germany has no interest in unsettling old relations of friendship merely to please Turkey. The fact of Germans entering the Turkish Government service presents no dangers. The attention of Europe would only be awakened did Germany send officers of rank.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.

Guiteau's counsel have completed their petitions to the Court that the jury may be instructed that the prisoner is entitled to all reasonable doubts regarding his sanity, and that if the jury believe him to have acted under an irresistible impulse, owing to an insane delusion, he should be found not guilty. They further urge that the jury should acquit the prisoner upon the counts of the indictment representing the death of President Garfield to have occurred in the district of Columbia. If, however, the jury consider the prisoner to have been of sound mind at the time he shot President Garfield, but that the act was committed without malice, then the counsel argue that the verdict should be one of manslaughter.

PARIS, Jan. 6.

The journal *Le Parlement*, in an article to-day upon the Anglo-French negociations, says :—"Without wishing to urge the Government to conclude a treaty of commerce with England at any price, we are of opinion that free trade is alone suitable for French productions as a whole, and that a treaty with England would sanction the maintenance of that system."

Referring to an article recently published by a London morning paper, the *République Française* to-day declares that France attaches especial value to England's friendship, and believes that her sentiments are reciprocated by the English Government and people. The journal is of opinion that this cordial feeling is rather gaining than losing strength, since the two countres have hitherto never failed to respect each other's rights.

SOCIETY.

A marriage has been arranged between Mr. Poyntz Stewart, of Montague House, Norwood, and Caroline, only child of Colonel Hindley Wilkinson, of Ceesfield Manor, Hertfordshire.

Also between Mr. Rolleston, of Watnall Hall, Notts, and Miss Maud Dalzell, youngest daughter of the late Colonel the Hon. Robert Dalzell, C.B.

Also between Mr. Uthred Hay Dunbar, eldest son of Sir William Dunbar, Bart., of Mochrum, Wigtownshire, and Miss Grant, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles T. C. Grant, of Kilgraston, Perthshire.

Also between Mr. Cecil Smyth-Pigott, eldest son of Mr. John Hugh Smyth-Pigott, of Brockley and Weston-super-Mare, and Miss Agnes Ruscombe Poole, second daughter of Mr. Joseph Ruscombe Poole, of Weston-super-Mare.

Also between Lieutenant-Colonel George Stanley Byng, A.D.C., assistant private secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, nephew of Viscount Torrington, and Miss Alice Jameson, second daughter of Mr. James Jameson, of Airfield, county Dublin.

The marriage of Mr. Henry Chamberlain, Lieut. R.N. (retired list), son of the late Rear-Admiral Chamberlain, with Miss Isabel Ellen Parkin, younger daughter of the Rev. Lewis Parkin, rector of Ingatestone, took place on Saturday, the 31st ult., at Christ Church, Mayfair, London. The Bishop of St. Alban's officiated, assisted by the Rev. Alfred Mason, vicar of Dedham, rural dean, and by the Rev. Edward C. Hawkins, head master of St. John's Foundation School, Leatherhead. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a rich white silk dress, trimmed with lace and satin, wreaths of real orange blossom on her head and round the neck, and a magnificent lace veil. The seven bridesmaids had peacock-blue costumes of cashmere of a very delicate shade of colour, watered silk sashes, and velvet bonnets and muffs to match the dresses. Each also wore on the shoulder and muff sprays of beautiful white flowers, the gift of the bridegroom. The immediate relatives and friends of both families were present at the ceremony and at the breakfast, which took place at 22, Park-lane, the residence of Mr. G. L. Parkin, uncle of the bride. Shortly after two o'clock the bride and bridegroom left for Eastbourne. The bride wore a travelling dress of brown cashmere and velvet, a brown velvet bonnet, and sealskin jacket.

Mr. and Mrs. Lowther entertained large parties of friends and neighbours last week at Ampthill for private theatricals and a ball. Both entertainments were fully and fashionably attended. Most of the neighbouring houses were filled with guests, and a very large party was brought from Woburn Abbey by the Duchess of Bedford. The old house was beautifully decorated, the reception and ball rooms being filled with rare flowers and plants. Some lovely dresses were displayed by the ladies. One dress of white was fairy-like in its appearance, being entirely of frosted tulle and marabout fringe, with tufts of frosted snowdrops deftly put in among the bouillonnés. A costume of very palest shade of pink had large roses of the same blush tint arranged to one side in a cascade of lace, with a single one on the low bodice. A café-au-lait tulle had bodice and scarf of moire of a deeper shade, with a cluster of shaded pink roses on the left shoulder. One or two dresses of black lace had bodices of brocade, with bead trimmings.

Last week was a very gay one at Lymington, the county ball taking place in the Townhall on Wednesday, the 28th inst.; Mrs. Fullerton's, at Walhampton Park, on the preceding night; and Mrs. Whitaker's musical afternoon, "at home," and ball, at Pylewell-park, on Thursday and Friday. For the county ball the Townhall was beautifully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and brilliantly lighted. Dancing commenced at ten o'clock to the strains of Target's celebrated string band from Southampton, and was kept up with great spirit. Nearly one hundred and fifty ladies and gentlemen were present, all the large neighbouring houses being full for the week. A great many officers from Winchester and Portsmouth attended. Among the many pretty toilets seen at the three balls were noticeable a very *bouffante* white tulle, with a tailcoat bodice of striped satin and moire, much trimmed with white blonde; to one side was a buttonhole of real white flowers and fern, and the same on the skirt, only larger. Another costume consisted of an underskirt of cream-lace and fringe, arranged alternately, with bodice and paniers of cream brocade looped back with long sprays of frosted holly and ivy; a wreath to match was worn in the hair, with beautiful diamond ornaments. An uncommon dress was of white moire, with bodice and broad scarf of yellow satin, gracefully trimmed with buttercups hanging by the stalks; the sleeves were composed of a fringe of buttercups, and the same flowers ornamented in the hair. A red tulle was made with flounces in front, edged with satin, and the bodice of satin, the long ends being tied among the bouillonnés at the back; on the low square bodice was a very large red poppy and bud. A lovely black dress had the front covered with row upon row of jet lace, and the bodice and train of moire, showing a very deep red satin lining. A grey tulle dress had bows of myrtle-green plush.

The annual Warminster county ball took place on Wednesday in last week. The Marquis and Marchioness of Bath brought a large party from Longleat, and so did many of the surrounding county families. There were some very pretty toilets to be seen, the majority being white and cream, with a sprinkling of colours, and a good many black, trimmed with jet or colours. A white tulle skirt, worn with a low, square bodice and paniers of white brocade, embroidered in pearls, had loops of pearls dotted all over; and one large spray of white lilac and leaves on the left side; a smaller spray on the bodice. Another white costume was of alternate flounces of box-plaited satin and bands of feather trimming, the bodice and scarf of satin being trimmed and caught up with marabouts. A cream gauze over moire had gilded pine cones of small size as trimming with dark leaves, a spray being worn in the hair. A black tulle skirt had the brocade coat elaborately embroidered in black beads, and was worn with diamond ornaments.

The marriage of Miss Francis Mary Cockerell, second daughter of the late Capt. Cockerell, of the 20th Hussars, with Mr. Arthur Ralph Pemberton, of the Rifle Brigade, only son of H. Pemberton, Esq., of Trumpington, Cambridgeshire, was solemnised at the Cathedral, Winchester, on Tuesday, Jan. 3, the Dean of Winchester, the Rector of Holy Cross, and the Rev. — Hodgson officiating. The bride (who was given away by her uncle, Mr. Andrew Cockerell, groom of the bedchamber to the Prince of Wales) wore a white satin dress, the front trimmed with white watered silk and point d'Alençon; a trail of orange blossoms appeared on the bodice and front of the dress, and a wreath of the same was worn beneath the tulle veil, which was fastened with diamond arrows and sprays, presented on the occasion of her marriage; the diamond pendant was given by Mr. Andrew Cockerell, and a bracelet by the sergeants of the Rifle Brigade, bearing the devices of the regiment and a suitable inscription. The nine bridesmaids were attired alike in pink nun's cloth, trimmed with lace and watered silk; the dresses were made with full-banded bodices, gathered at the neck. The brown straw Spanish hats had pink pompons and brown beaded lace on the brim; brown stockings, brown shoes, and bronze gants de Suède completed the costumes. Each bridesmaid received a gold arrow set with pink coral, from the bridegroom, and these were worn on the left side. They all carried bouquets. After the signatures had been made in the vestry, the company adjourned to Friar's Barton, where Mrs. Cockerell gave a *déjeuner* to some ninety guests, and in the evening a dance was given in honour of the event. The presents were very numerous; the toilets worn unusually very pretty. Mrs. Cockerell, the mother of the bride, had a dress of black velvet, and the bonnet composed entirely of pansies fastened with diamonds. Mrs. Steward, aunt to the bride, wore a rich brown satin, with paniers of pink watered silk, the bodice laced over pink in front, and a pink and brown bonnet with large ostrich feathers. Mrs. Hodgson had a ruby satin trimmed with lace and a brocade of white and ruby, with bonnet to match. At half-past three the bride and bridegroom started for Bonchurch, Isle of Wight, amid a shower of slippers and rice. The bride wore a travelling dress of brown velvet and satin, a long redingote of brown silk brocade, bordered with feather trimming, a brown beaded princess bonnet, the strings fastened with diamonds.

The marriage of Mr. Francis Pulteney, third son of the late Rev. R. Pulteney, of Ashley, Northamptonshire, and Miss Harriet Osborne, daughter of Sir George Osborne, Bart., took place at Campton Church, Beds, on the 22nd ult. The bride's dress was white satin trimmed with Brussels lace and orange blossoms. She wore diamond and pearl ornaments, and her veil was of fine Brussels lace, and she carried a magnificent bouquet. She was given away by her father. Mr. Charles Tounley officiated as best man. The bridesmaids were eight in number. Their ornaments were crystal and gold lockets, with the monogram of the bridal pair, the gift of the bridegroom, and each carried a bouquet. After the ceremony the party repaired to Chicksands, where a breakfast was prepared, after which the newly-married pair set off for Folkestone, *en route* for Paris and Nice. The presents were on view at the Priory. Among the guests were the Dowager Countess of Antrim, Mr. and Mrs. Fellowes, the Misses Pulteney, Rev. Arthur Pulteney, Mr. Algernon Beauclerk, Mr. Charles Tounley, Mr. Kinloch, Mr. Parkin, Mrs. Western Plumptre, &c.

A gathering, the like of which was never known during the lifetime of the late Duke of Portland, took place at Welbeck Abbey on Wednesday se'nnight. Twelve months ago a servants' and tradesmen's ball was established, and the hope was then expressed that it might be held annually, and, judging from present circumstances, this appears to be very probable. The ball was on a ducal scale, and the magnificent suite of four rooms—the underground libraries and the newly-arranged picture gallery—were set apart for the dancers. The first room was used as a supper-room, and tables were arranged to accommodate 300 guests, at two sittings. The walls were beautifully decorated with evergreens and mottoes, the latter expressive of the feelings of the servants, by whom for the most part they had been arranged. The mottoes read "Long life to the Duke," "Let friendship dwell among us," "Virtue overcomes envy," &c. The next room was a reception-room, and this was suitably furnished and decorated. The third room was the ball-room, and the polished oak floor appeared to be admirably adapted for dancing without a covering of holland or other material. The decorations were very chaste, and the principal mottoes affixed to the wall were :—"Health and happiness to the Duke," "Long life to Lady Bolsover and Family," "God save the Queen," "Peace, Plenty, and Welcome," and "May 1882 bring happiness to all." The large picture-gallery was used for promenading. It was at nine o'clock that the company began to assemble. The house party included the Duke of Portland, Baroness Bolsover, Lady Ottoline Cavendish-Bentinck, Lord Henry Bentinck, Lord William Cavendish-Bentinck, Lord Charles Cavendish-Bentinck, and Mr. John R. Gladstone, Coldstream Guards. There were in addition to the Welbeck servants, servants from Clumber, Thoresby, Worksop Manor, Serlby, Sandbeck, Firbeck, and other large houses in the district. The ball was opened with a country dance, Baroness Bolsover being partner to Mr. M'Callum, the steward, and the Duke of Portland the partner to Mrs. Dalton, the housekeeper. Mr. M'Callum officiated as master of the ceremonies, and the admirable way in which everything passed off is a sufficient testimony to his suitability for the office. This gentleman also presided at the supper table, and proposed the "Healths of the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." He briefly alluded to the recent visit of the Prince of Wales to Welbeck, and remarked that they would notice that it was enjoyed, as expressed in the letter of thanks of the Duke of Portland to the inhabitants of Worksop for the loyalty they displayed on the occasion. He also mentioned that it was not improbable that the Prince of Wales might again visit the Dukeries at no very distant date. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, the healths of Lady Bolsover, the Duke of Portland, and other members of the family, appropriately mentioned the fact that that was the 24th anniversary of the Duke's birthday. Considering that the Duke had only been at Welbeck two years, he had become already popular, not only with the tenants and workpeople, but also with the outside public. He (the chairman) hoped the Duke would be able fifty years hence to take part in gatherings which tended to promote the happiness of those around him. Allusion was also made to the many kindnesses of the Baroness Bolsover, who was ever ready to assist in the promotion of their welfare. Dancing was afterwards resumed, and continued until an early hour. There were rooms for those who desired to forego the pleasures of the dance for the perhaps more enticing game of cards. The ball was one of the best of its kind which has ever been held in the district. The guests numbered over 300.

The *Eastbourne Chronicle* says :—"One of the prettiest and most fashionable weddings we have had to record for some time was solemnised at St. Saviour's Church on Thursday, the contracting parties being the Rev. Silvanus Key Borton, M.A., Warden of St. Saviour's Choir School, and Miss Mary Paulina Caroline Graham, eldest daughter of Reginald J. Graham, Esq., of The Elms, Eastbourne, and Edmond Castle, Cumberland. In the neighbourhood of the Elms bunting was hung across the road at several points, and the tradespeople in Lewes-place made a particularly effective display of flags. Long before eleven o'clock—the time fixed for the wedding—the entrances to the church were besieged by crowds of people anxious to gain admittance, and it soon became apparent that the plan of admitting by tickets was a very wise one to adopt, for otherwise some of the most interested parties might have been excluded from the building by the pressure of the general public. The front seats in the centre of the nave were reserved for the wedding guests, of whom there was a large number, and whose arrival in the church was watched with considerable interest by the large body of spectators. At a signal from the vergers, Dr. Sangster struck up the hymn appointed to be sung on the bride entering the church. The bridesmaids, twelve in number, stood each side of the door looking most charming in their uniform costume of cream-coloured satin trimmed with lace, and pretty mob caps of the same material. Each carried a bouquet of lovely flowers, presented by the mother of the bridegroom. They were Miss Borton, Miss Disraeli (niece of the late Earl of Beaconsfield), Miss Charlotte Curteis, Miss Darby and eight sisters of the bride—Miss Katharine, Miss Geraldine, Miss Violet, Miss Octavia, Miss Nona, Miss Decima, Miss Stella, and Miss Olivia Graham. The latter two excited much interest from their tender years, one being only five years old, and matching well with the little groomsman, Master Abadie. A perfect buzz of admiration arose as the bride stepped into the church and was escorted by her father to the chancel gates, followed by her bevy of maids. She was attired in a magnificent dress of ivory satin, trimmed with rich old guipure point lace, with trails of orange blossom. A wreath of the same flowers encircled her head, over which was thrown a large veil of soft tulle, and in her hand she held a bouquet of choice flowers, the gift of the bridegroom. The choir sang the hymn, 'The King of Love my Shepherd is.' The marriage service was performed by the Rev. H. R. Whelpton, assisted by the Rev. T. W. Mylne, senior curate. The service was choral, conducted by Dr. Sangster, organist and choirmaster, and supported by the full choir of the church. At the conclusion of the marriage ceremony the Rev. H. R. Whelpton, delivered a short sermon, in the course of which he said :—

"'God's Church is jealous of her hold upon matrimony—and rightly jealous, for the world is continually claiming marriage as only a civil contract. It remains, therefore, ever necessary to insist upon the religious aspect of marriage, and that is what I want you this day and henceforth thoroughly to realise. For you, the bridegroom, it might seem unnecessary to point to so obvious a thing. You are an ordained priest of the Most High God, serving this very church in which this morning you are seeking the Divine blessing upon your marriage. To you, also, the bride, it might appear equally unnecessary, especially considering you are a loyal daughter of the Church, standing this moment on the spot where but a short time ago you knelt to receive confirmation. But, do you know, it is on this account I try to make you observe this. The marriage service is written on the first page of the new volume of life, which now you are just opening. Let the main thought and teaching of that service be your motto and teaching onward. Cultivate, cherish, deepen the conviction that your wedded life is, as this grand old form of service has made you express with your own lips, "God's holy ordinance." Remember, and often turn back to the remembrance, that the promises you have made to each other this morning are not so many sentimental vows, prompted by youthful passion and mutual fondness. They are rather the deep, earnest, and loving engagements of those who are taking serious views of life; of those who believe there is no true life even now in this world, except the life which is based upon godliness. That is the thought all through the service—life and godliness joined together by God. Think not only of the promises you have made to one another, but also of the language of prayer which has gone up to the Father in heaven on your behalf. Remember especially those words, 'Almighty God, sanctify and bless you, that you may live together in holy love unto your life's end.'

The hymn, 'Lead us, Heavenly Father,' was then sung, after which the vicar pronounced the final blessing, and Dr. Sangster played a lively march, followed by Mendelssohn's 'Wedding March,' and after signing the register the happy pair left the church with their relatives and friends for a *déjeûner* at the Albion Hotel, after which the happy couple took their departure for London, *en route* for North Wales. The presents made to the bride are numerous and costly. They include jewellery, plate, mantel-clocks, pianos, albums, ornaments, eider-down quilts, and a varied assortment of other articles, besides which presents in money were sent amounting to between £200 and £300. Among the most gratifying of the gifts may be mentioned a handsome clock and pair of candelabra from the tenants of the Edmond Castle estate, and a beautiful travelling clock from the servants at The Elms. The bridegroom also received a number of gifts in addition to those which had been presented to him during the past week by the choir and choir school of St. Saviour's. These included a beautiful album from the choir school, of photographs of the choristers and the bridegroom's fellow-helpers in the church, presented at a public gathering on the previous Saturday, together with a beautiful epergne and side dessert dishes from the members of the choir."

MONEY MARKET.

FRIDAY.

Consols closed at 100½ xd. for money, and 100 3-16 to 100 5-16 xd. for the account.

The sum of £22,000 in gold was received at the Bank.

We are able positively to confirm the statement of the *Church Times* of yesterday on the subject of Mr. Green's continued imprisonment. It has been frequently assumed of late that no one particular person in authority is responsible for this scandal; and Sir W. Harcourt has just publicly declared his inability to remove it. Nothing, however, could be more at variance with the actual fact. The fullest responsibility in the matter rests with the Home Secretary, who, if he pleased, could at once obtain Mr. Green's release by advising Her Majesty to grant it. This he has not only neglected, but still obstinately refuses, to do. Moreover, it is obvious to remark that if the case were really as Sir W. Harcourt states he must or might have been aware of the fact many months ago, and could, if he had chosen, have asked for a special Act of Parliament last Session to set Mr. Green at liberty. The cordial enmity which Sir William Harcourt has always felt and shown towards the High Church party was probably not by any means softened by the almost unanimous support which the Oxford clergy gave to his opponent, Mr. A. W. Hall, at the election of last year. We may add that we happen to know, as a fact, that under a Conservative Government Mr. Green would have been set free long ago. It is to be hoped that those of the clergy who last year so cordially supported the Revolutionary-Atheist party have by this time learned a wholesome lesson.

It is proposed, we hear, to investigate the relations of the members of the present Government with electoral corruption, and to publish the results of the investigations. Really, this is very rude and inconsiderate. Everyone ought to feel that the Ministry that refuses to extend leniency to those convicted of bribing at Sandwich and Macclesfield must be quite immaculate, and ought to be above suspicion. The impropriety of suggesting that any of Sir William Harcourt's money was spent in bribing at Oxford is obvious. Everyone knows that Sir Henry James was most anxious that an election petition should be presented at Taunton, and that there should be the fullest investigation into the mapractices of which that innocent constituency was accused. It is true that Mr. Dodson was unseated at Chester; but at least he was not scheduled. It is reported that Lord Rosebery spent a considerable sum of money in Midlothian, but surely the husband of a Rothschild has the right to be generous. The wicked rumours that affect other members of the Ministry of All the Virtues will be properly appreciated by a generous public opinion.

Printed and Published by THOMAS DIXON, at the Office, No. 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.—Saturday, Jan. 7, 1882.